# shadow star

STARFLIGHT

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骸なる星珠たる子

# Jinchi Shadow Star

影なる星珠たる子

#Manga-Sketchbook@WONDERnet

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Edited by Finnpest

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儀なる星珠たる子

## STARFLIGHT

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PROLOGUE

GUINNESS ONE... BOGEY STILL CONTINUING ON VECTOR ZERO-FIVE-EIGHT, SPEED SIX HUNDRED, ANGELS FIFTEEN, TEN MILES. ALPHA-BRAVO ADVISES WARNING YELLOW, WEAPONS HOLD.

ROGER THAT, GOLD CROWN.

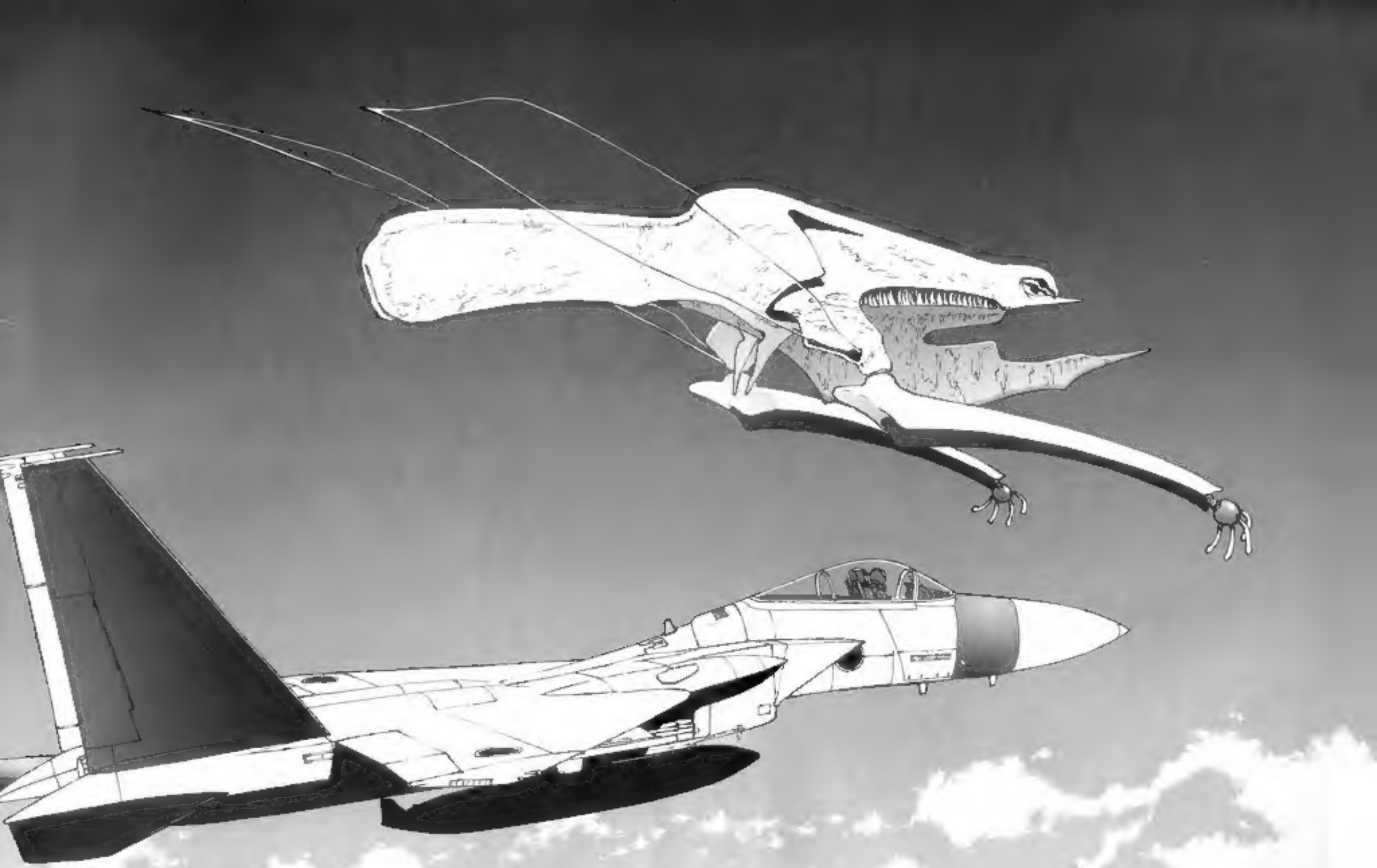
CLOSING NINE-FIVE KNOTS.

SHOULD HAVE VISUAL ANY SECOND.

TALLY-HO!

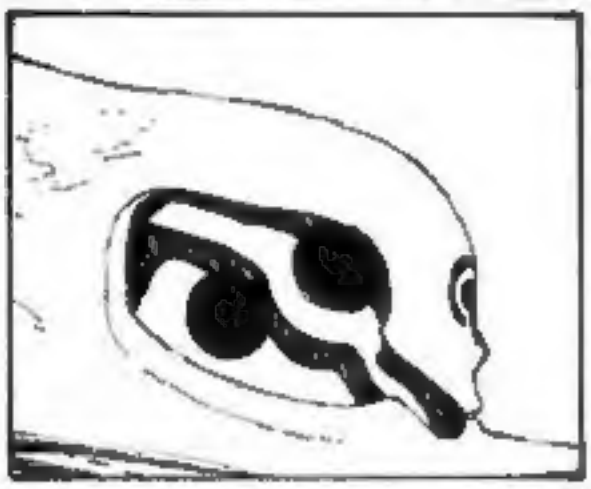
*WHAT THE HELL...?!*

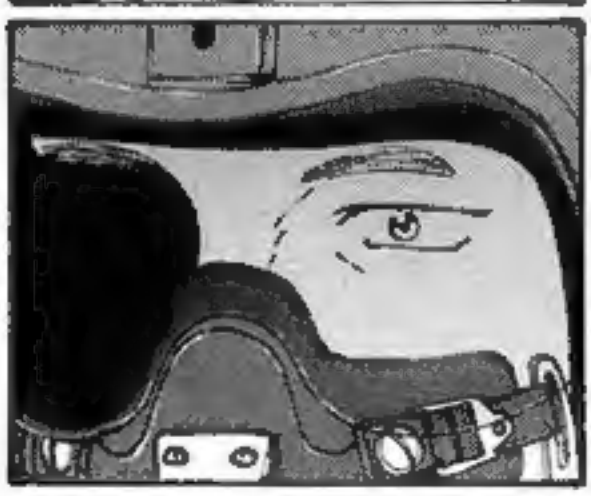
WHAT *IS* THAT?



HEY, BULLDOG, YOU COPY?

YOU SEEIN' WHAT I'M SEEIN'?!





whpp

WHOA!

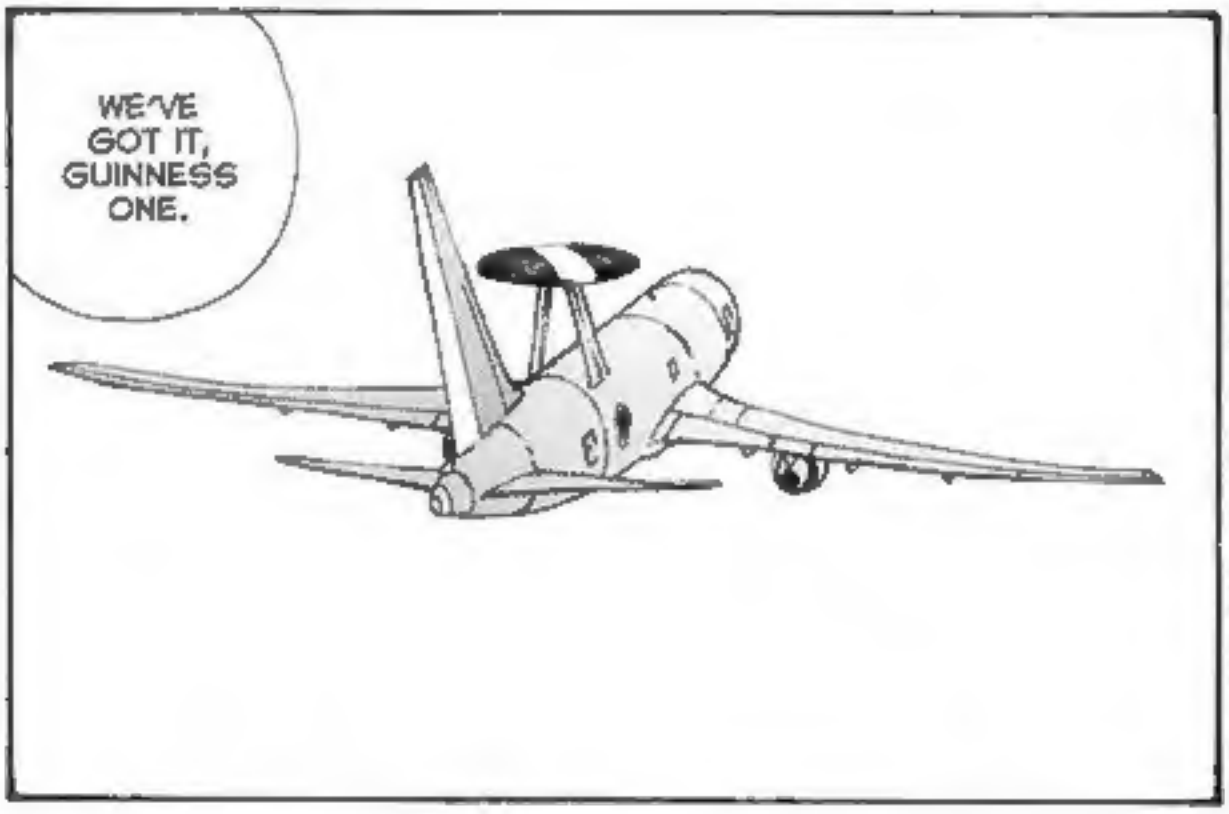
HE JUST PULLED A "COBRA" AT SIX HUNDRED KNOTS!

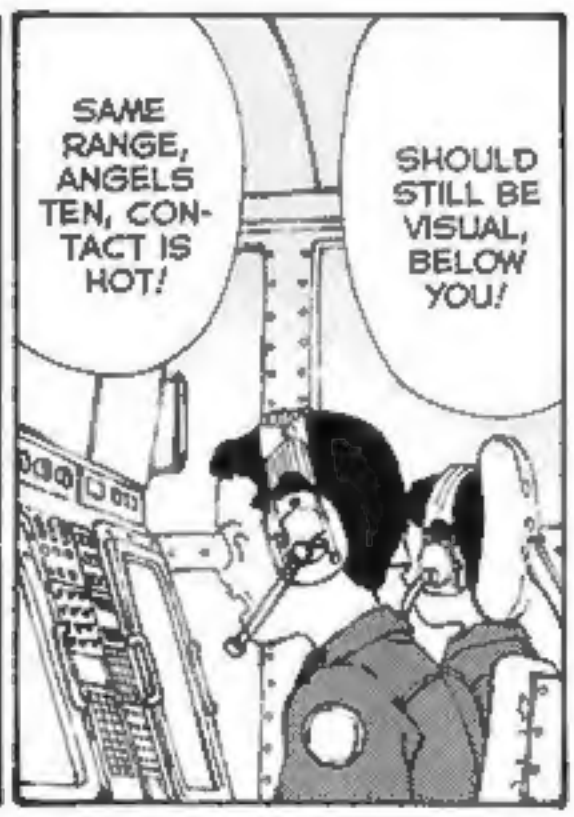
NOTHING CAN FLY LIKE THAT!

FWSSSH

SHREEEE

DAMN! YOU STILL TRACKING, GOLD CROWN?


WE'VE GOT IT, GUINNESS ONE.


SAME RANGE, ANGELS TEN, CONTACT IS HOT!
SHOULD STILL BE VISUAL, BELOW YOU!

BELOW ME?!
SHREEE

WATCH YOUR ALTITUDE, ROCKO!

SHREEE

DAMN IT, MIHARA!
I'M GONNA GET SOME GUN CAMERA FOOTAGE OF IT, BULL-DOG!!

GUINNESS ONE! *PULL UP!* WE'RE SHOWING YOU PASSING *ANGELS THREE!*

hahh

*BZZT*
*BZZT*

PULL UP.
PULL UP.

*BZZT*
*BZZT*

hahh

hahh

hahh

SPLASHK

:hahh:

SHREEEEEEEE

:hahh:

BOGEY SPLASHED ITSELF, GOLD CROWN!

WEIRD THERE'S NO WRECKAGE!

HEY, ROCKO... YOU OKAY?

SORRY, 'DOG.

DON'T KNOW WHAT CAME OVER ME.

DAMN...!

WHAT THE HELL WAS *THAT?*

PROLOGUE : END

# IN THE SHAPE OF A STAR

IT'S ALL SET FOR YOU TO PICK ME UP NEXT WEEK, RIGHT?

SURE, SURE, YOU BET.

THE "SUMMER VACATION SPECIAL EXPRESS," THAT'S US!

YOU JUST HANG OUT AND HAVE A GOOD TIME HERE, MISSY!

'KAY!

SEE YA LATER, MR. SUZUKI!

OH, SH!NA...? MAKE SURE YOU CALL YOUR DAD AT LEAST *ONCE*, OKAY?

LAST SUMMER HE WAS ABOUT THE LONELIEST MAN ALIVE WHILE YOU WERE GONE.

ROGER, CAP'N!

GRANDPA?!

WOW! THAT WAS FAST!

I SAW YER PLANE FLYIN' IN.

SO I D'D ME SOME "LOW FLYIN'" OF MY OWN!

NOW, YOU GOT A WHOLE WEEK HERE, SO DON'T BE TRYIN' T' DO EVER'THING AT ONCE, SH'INA.

'KAY!

SO... HOW WAS YOUR LAST REPORT CARD, DARLIN'?

HUH?

GEEZ, GRAMPY! THE THREE THINGS YOU'RE *NEVER* S'POSED TO ASK A GIRL ARE HER *AGE*, HER *WEIGHT*, AND HER *GRADES!*

HA HA HAW!

HOW'S SHUNJI DOIN'?

HUH? DADDY ...?

WELL, MR. SUZUKI FLEW ME HERE AND HE SAYS DADDY'S GONNA BE "THE LONELIEST MAN ALIVE"...

...FOR THE NEXT WEEK, ANYWAY

Putt Putt Putt

WOULD YOU JUST LISTEN TO THAT LITTLE PUP?!

HE GETS TO MONOPOLIZE OUR LOVELY LITTLE SHIINA MOST O' THE YEAR!

WE ONLY GET A *FEW* DAYS AND HE--

AW, C'MON, GRAMPY... IT'S JUST WHAT *MR. SUZUKI* SAID!

HEY!

VRMMM

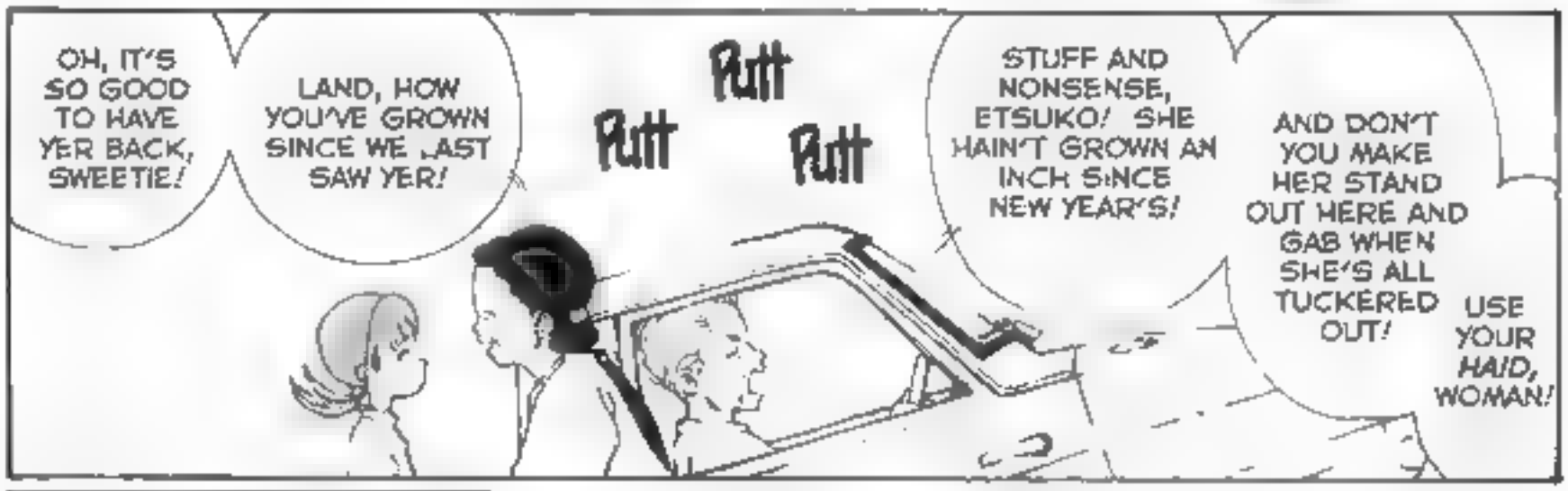
CHECK IT OUT!

THERE HE GOES!!

VMMM

BYYYE-BYE!

GRAMMA!


OH, IT'S SO GOOD TO HAVE YER BACK, SWEETIE!
LAND, HOW YOU'VE GROWN SINCE WE LAST SAW YER!
Putt
Putt
Putt
STUFF AND NONSENSE, ETSUKO! SHE HAIN'T GROWN AN INCH SINCE NEW YEAR'S!
AND DON'T YOU MAKE HER STAND OUT HERE AND GAB WHEN SHE'S ALL TUCKERED OUT!
USE YOUR HAID, WOMAN!

YOU HAVE TO BRING ANY HOMEWORK WITH YOU THIS TIME, DEAR?
YEAH.
I GOTTA DO A STUPID DRAWING.
GEEZ ...!

Kti ngg

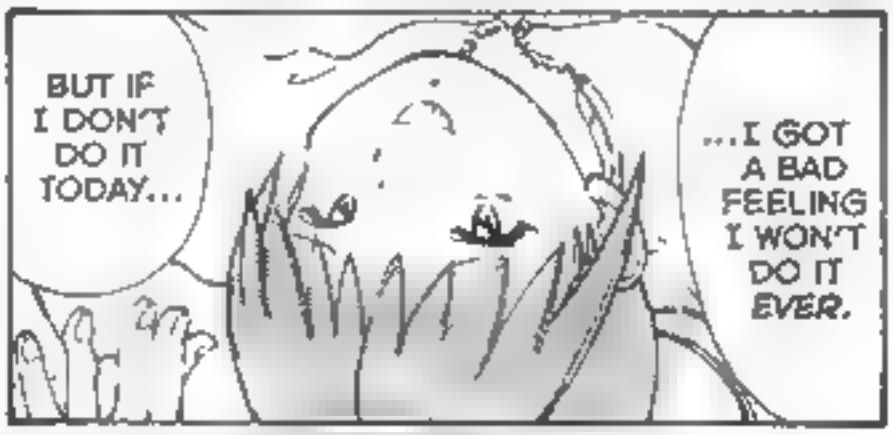
HMMM...

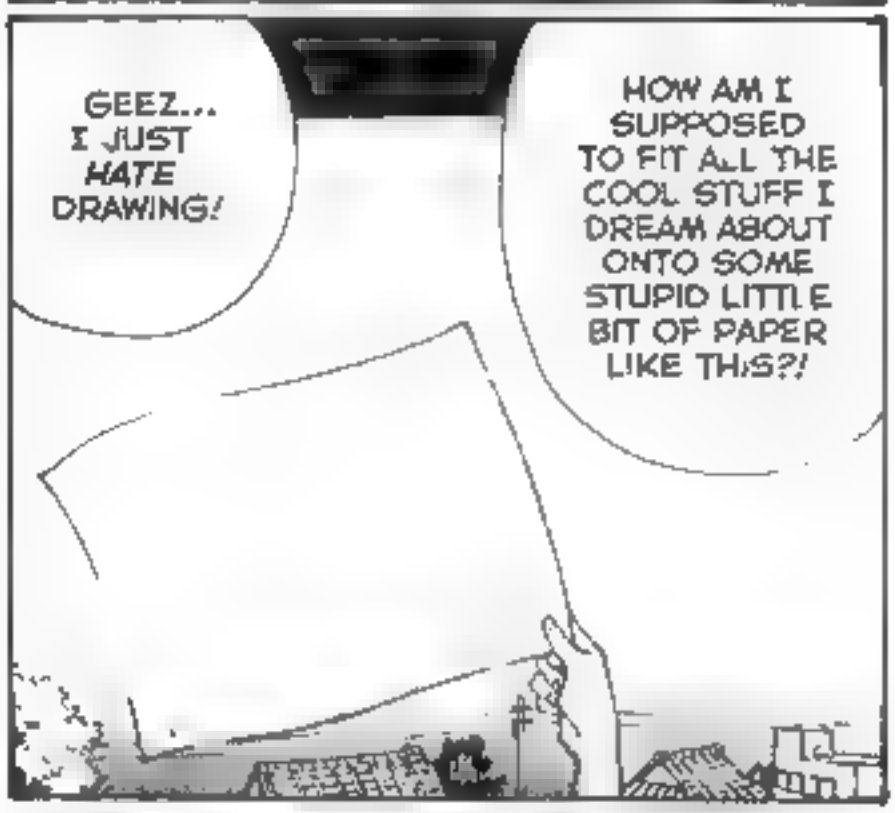
AHH...

I DUNNO.

Fuph

NOW DON'T TELL ME YOU'LL BE DOIN' THAT HOMEWORK NOW?!


BUT IF I DON'T DO IT TODAY...
...I GOT A BAD FEELING I WON'T DO IT EVER.


GEEZ... I JUST HATE DRAWING!
HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO FIT ALL THE COOL STUFF I DREAM ABOUT ONTO SOME STUPID LITTLE BIT OF PAPER LIKE THIS?!

FORGET IT!
JUST NO WAY!

AND THEM DREAMS OF YOURS, HON...?

WHAT *WOULD* BE BIG ENOUGH FOR Y'ALL TO FIT THEM ALL N...?

THE WORLD.

THE *WHOLE WIDE WORLD!*

HO HO HO!

YOU *ARE* A CAUTION, CHILD!

YOU KNOW... MY SHUNJI LOVED TO DRAW, HE DID.

HE WAS A MITE SLOPPY MOST TIMES, BUT SOME THINGS HE REALLY CARED ABOUT.

*SO? WHAT'S YOUR POINT? GEEZ!*

NOW, ALL THEM PICTURES HE DREW... SEEMS TO ME...

HMM... SOMEWHERE IN THE OLD BARN?

YOU'VE STILL GOT THEM? *COOL!*

I WANNA CHECK 'EM OUT! *hee hee*

DON'T FORGET DINNER'S ON THE WAY!

HANG ON AND I'LL HELP YOU, GRAM!

I'LL JUST TAKE A QUICK LOOK, PROMISE!

NOPE... NOT HERE.

HMM... MAYBE ...?

AH, *HAH!*

GOTCHA!

AW, GRAMMA! SHEESH!

I THOUGHT HE MIGHT HAVE ACTUALLY BEEN GOOD!

THEY'RE JUST PLAIN OL' *DOODLES!*

BUNCH'A DUMB AIR-PLANES AND *MONSTERS!*

HUH... I GUESS DADDY...

...WAS *ALWAYS* LIKE THAT.

F7

SHIINAAAA...

ARE YOU CALLING ME?

BUT YOU KNOW... THAT NAME? "SHIINA"...?

I DON'T LIKE IT.

SO NEXT TIME YOU WANT TO CALL ME, DO ME A FAVOR...

...AND DON'T USE THAT NAME.

SHII-NAAA...

HEY, SHIINA!!

HUH ...?? oog...

SHIINA/ THIS IS GREAT!

WHEN DID Y'ALL GET HERE?

YESTER-DAY?

UH...?

SATORU...?

G'NIGHT...

IT'S *ELEVEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING, DUMMY!!*

HUH?!

HAW HAW HAW!!

SHE WAS ALL WORE OUT, SHE WAS!

HEH, HEH!

SO WE JUST LET THE L'IL SLEEPYHEAD SNOOZE.

slurp

Y'ALL GONNA WEAR YOUR JAMMIES ALL DAY, OR WHAT?

YEESH!

AH, SHAD-DAP.

I'M PRETTY CRABBY IN THE MORNING, SO YOU BETTER WATCH OUT OR I'LL KICK YOUR--

DO YOU WANT SECONDS, DEAR?

YEAH! TONS!!

C'MON, SH'NA! HURRY UP AND LET'S GO SWIMMING! THE WHOLE GANG'S GONNA BE THERE!

snap

REALLY? I'M THERE!

ALLLL RIGHT!

LET'S GO GO GO!!

splssh

GETCHER BUTT IN GEAR, SATORU!

YEEHAW, SHIINA!

awhewe

MAN, YOU'RE TOO TOUGH, SHI NA.

BURNS MY BUTT, LOSING TO A CITY GIRL.

AW, C'MON, DON'T BE LIKE THAT. IT'S JUST 'CAUSE YOU'RE A YEAR YOUNGER THAN ME.

YOU SWIM PRETTY GOOD!

YEAH, BUT... I FIGGERED I'D BE ABLE T' BEAT YA THIS YEAR.

'KAY THEN-- ONE MORE RACE!

OUT TO THE TORII!*

HUH?!

B-BUT THAT'S AGAINST THE *RULES!*

*SHINTO SHRINE GATE

WHY? SEA MONSTERS GONNA GET-CHA?!

OOGY-BOOGY!

JUST 'CAUSE WE LIVE ON THIS LITTLE ISLAND DON'T MEAN WE'RE A BUNCHA STUPID *HICKS,* SHIINA!

YOU'VE BEEN HERE BEFORE--YOU KNOW THERE'S SOME BIG OL' CURRENTS OUT THERE.

'SIDES, THE OLD FOLKS SAID NOT TO DO IT, ANYHOW.

AIN'T YOU LISTENIN' TO ME?!

ONE! TWO!

I WON'T BE COMING BACK NEXT YEAR.

SO THIS IS MY LAST CHANCE TO TRY IT.

DARN IT, SHIINA! ***DON'T!!***

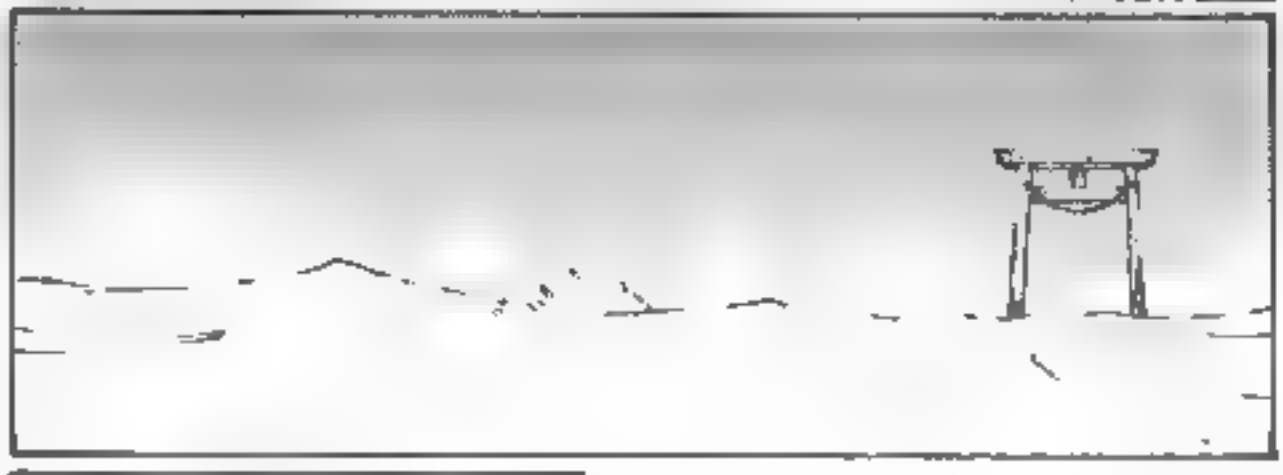
IF Y'ALL ***DROWN,*** DON'T SAY I DIDN'T WARN YOU!

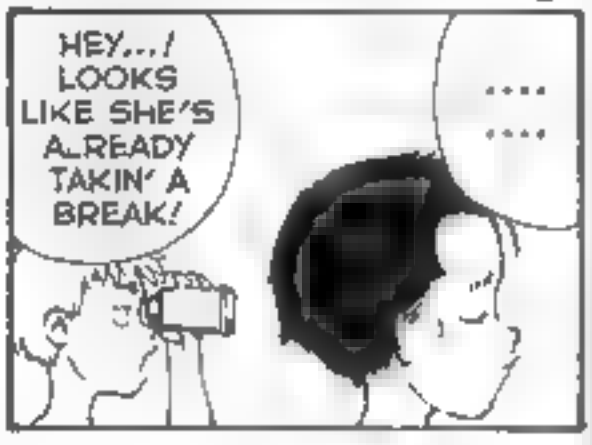
DUMB TOWNIE!!

I DO FEEL LIKE THERE'S SOMETHING OUT THERE MAYBE EVEN SOMETHING SCARY...

I WONDER WHY THAT IS? BECAUSE OF THAT DREAM I HAD LAST NIGHT?

BUT SOMEHOW, I JUST *HAVE* TO GO.





AND EVEN WORSE...

YUP... THE CURRENT'S GOT HER.

SHOULD I GO GET A GROWN-UP...?

HYA AH!!

SPLSH

SPLSSH

GO FOR IT!!

GO SHIINA GO!

:haaff!:

:phewww:

MAN, I'M WHACKED.

WOW... IT'S PRETTY BIG ONCE YOU SEE IT CLOSE UP.
?!

SHIINAAA!
=hhff!=


splsh

glrp

BLRBBL

OH, NO...!

I... I GOT WATER IN MY...

YAY! SHIINA'S BACK UP! SHE'S OKAY!

NO... WAIT! SOME-THING'S WRONG!

SHE'S IN TROUBLE!!

I'LL GO GET HELP!

SHIINA!

I'M SCARED. I'M SO SCARED.

AM I GOING TO DIE?

DIE?

I'M GOING TO BE GONE?

I'M GOING TO BE GONE FROM THIS WORLD?

TO NOT BE...?

THIS WORLD WILL DIE...

THIS WORLD WILL BE GONE FROM ME?

BE GONE?

WHO?

ME...?

THE WORLD...?

AND THEN...?

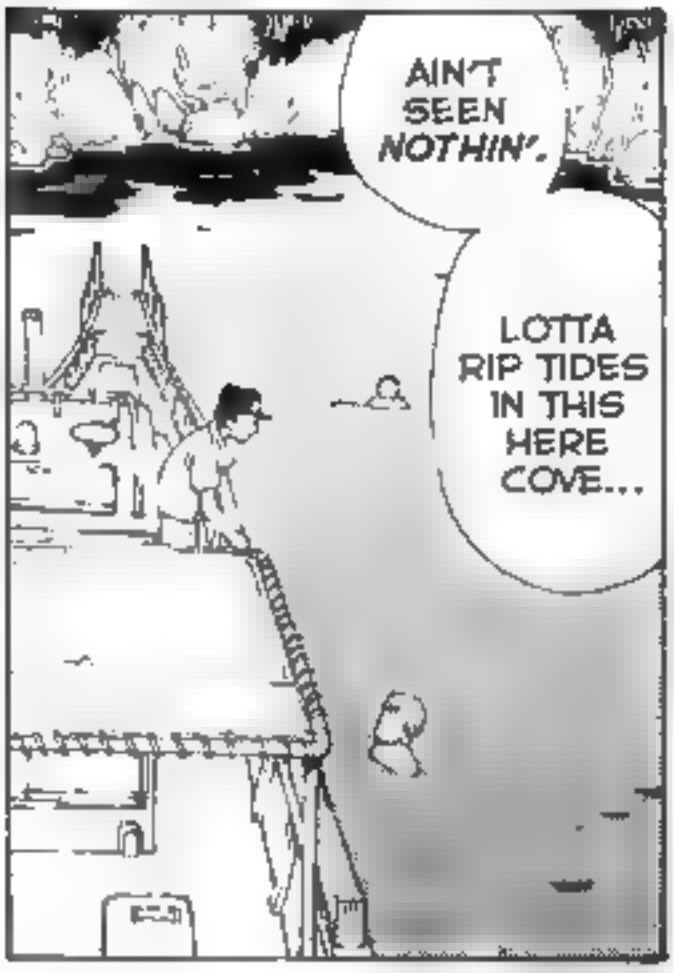
玉鋲ショッピ

WHERE IS THIS PLACE...?

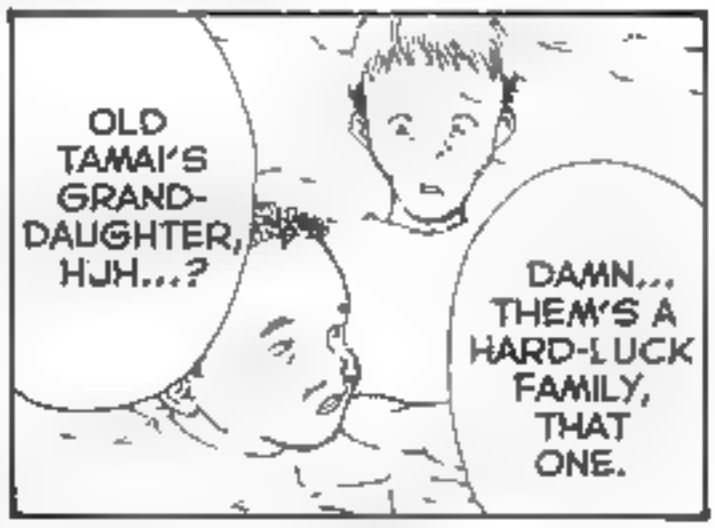
THERE'S NOTHING HERE.

WHERE IS THIS...

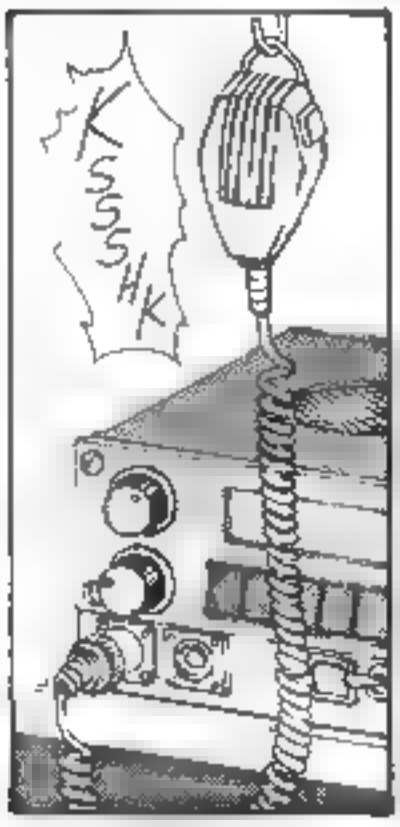
"PLACE...?"

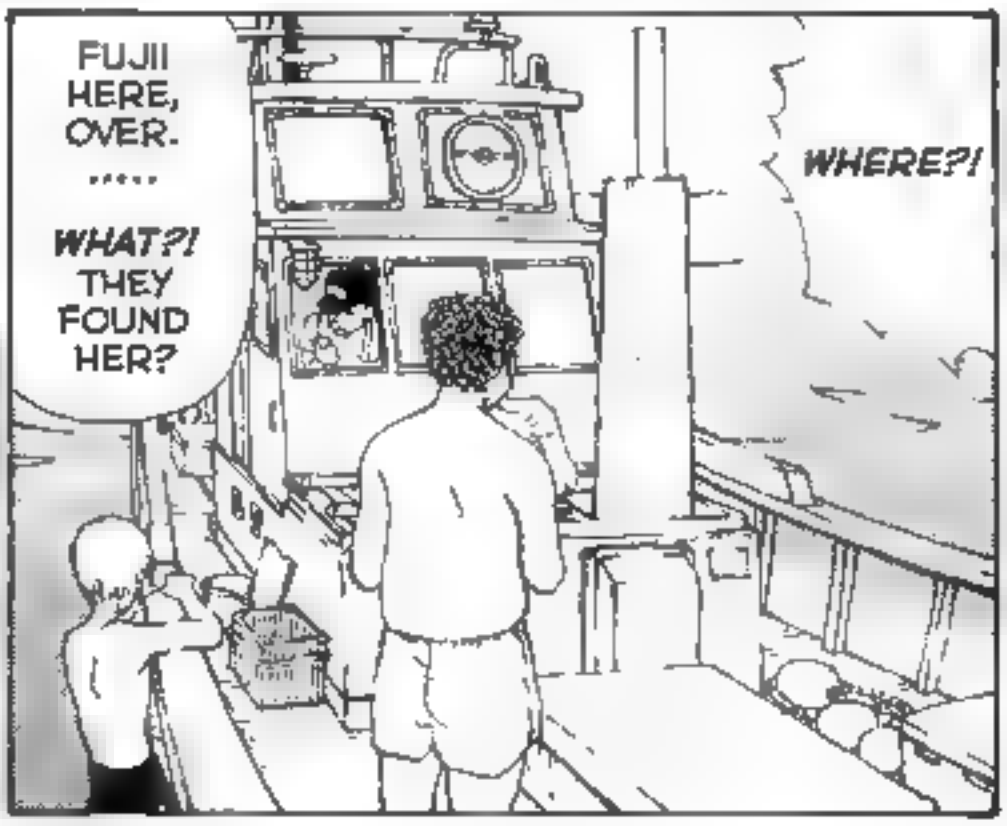

AIN'T SEEN NOTHIN'.
LOTTA RIP TIDES IN THIS HERE COVE...

YEAH. LOOKS LIKE THEM BOYS AIN'T FINDIN' A DAMN THING EITHER.
DUNNO... MAYBE WE OUGHTTA POKE AROUND OFFSHORE AGAIN.


OLD TAMAI'S GRAND-DAUGHTER, HUH...?
DAMN... THEM'S A HARD-LUCK FAMILY, THAT ONE.

THAT'S ENOUGH O' THAT TALK! WE AIN'T GIVIN' UP YET!
SORRY 'BOUT THAT.


KSSSHK


FUJII HERE, OVER.
.....
WHAT?! THEY FOUND HER?
WHERE?!

HUH ...?

"IN FRONT OF DOC MAEDA'S PLACE?!"

前田診療所

SOME-THIN' TO DRINK ...?

UH-UH. I'M FINE.

HONEST, GRAMPY... I'M ALL BETTER NOW.

TODAY Y'ALL KEEP QUIET AND REST, SHIINA!

GEEZ... I'M SORRY, GUYS REALLY.

WERE YOU *REALLY* WORRIED ...?

ARE Y'ALL *KID-DIN'?!*

YA DUMB GIRL!

C'MON!

YOU DON'T REMEMBER *ANYTHING?* FOR REAL?!

*UHMMM...* I DUNNO.

IT'S KINDA HARD TO SAY!

DUMB GIRL

WELL, THERE AIN'T NO DENYIN' IT'S FOR THE BEST AND ALL.

BUT IT SURE MAKES YER THINK.

前田診療所

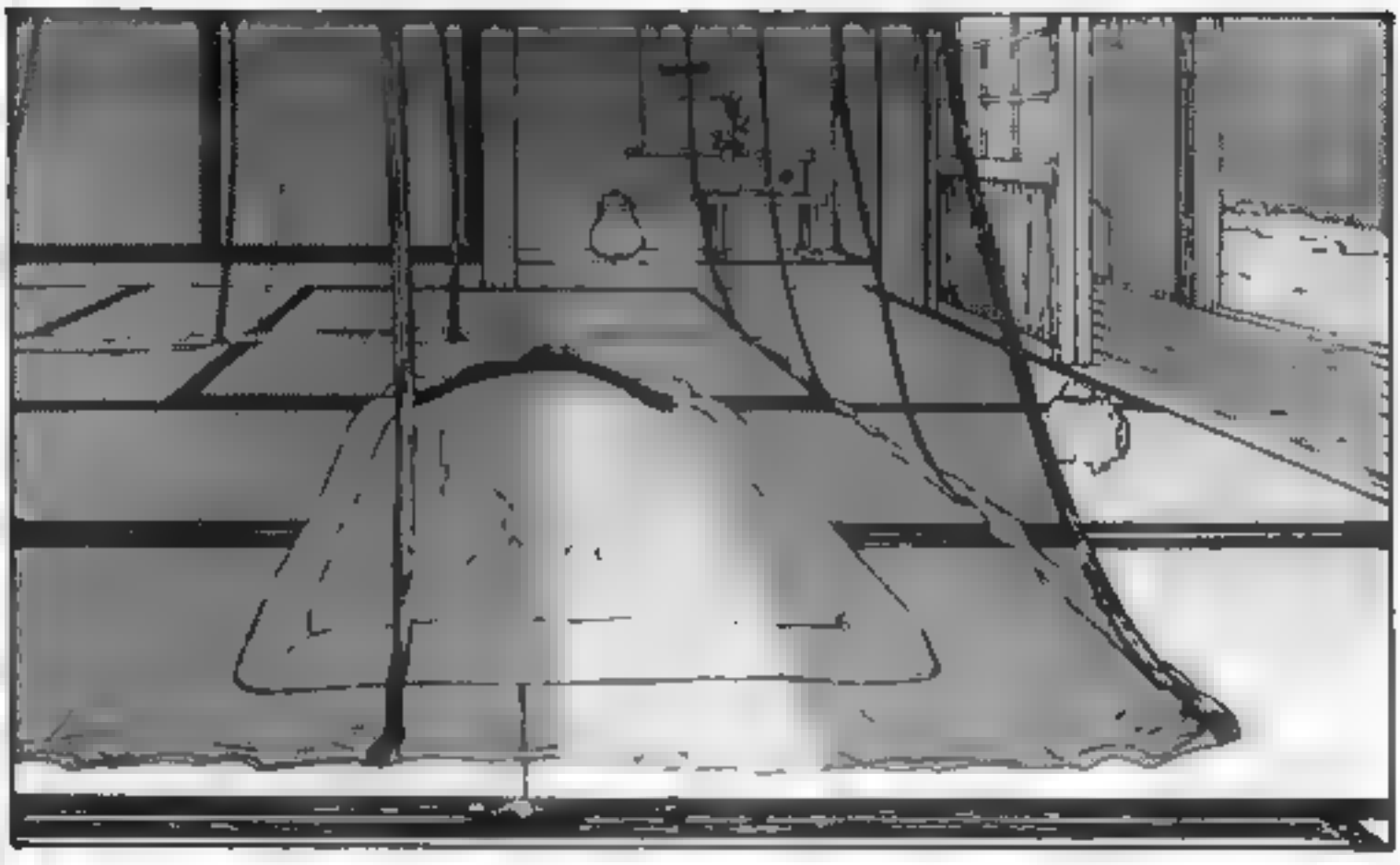
SO YOU'RE TELLING ME SOMEONE RESCUED HER...

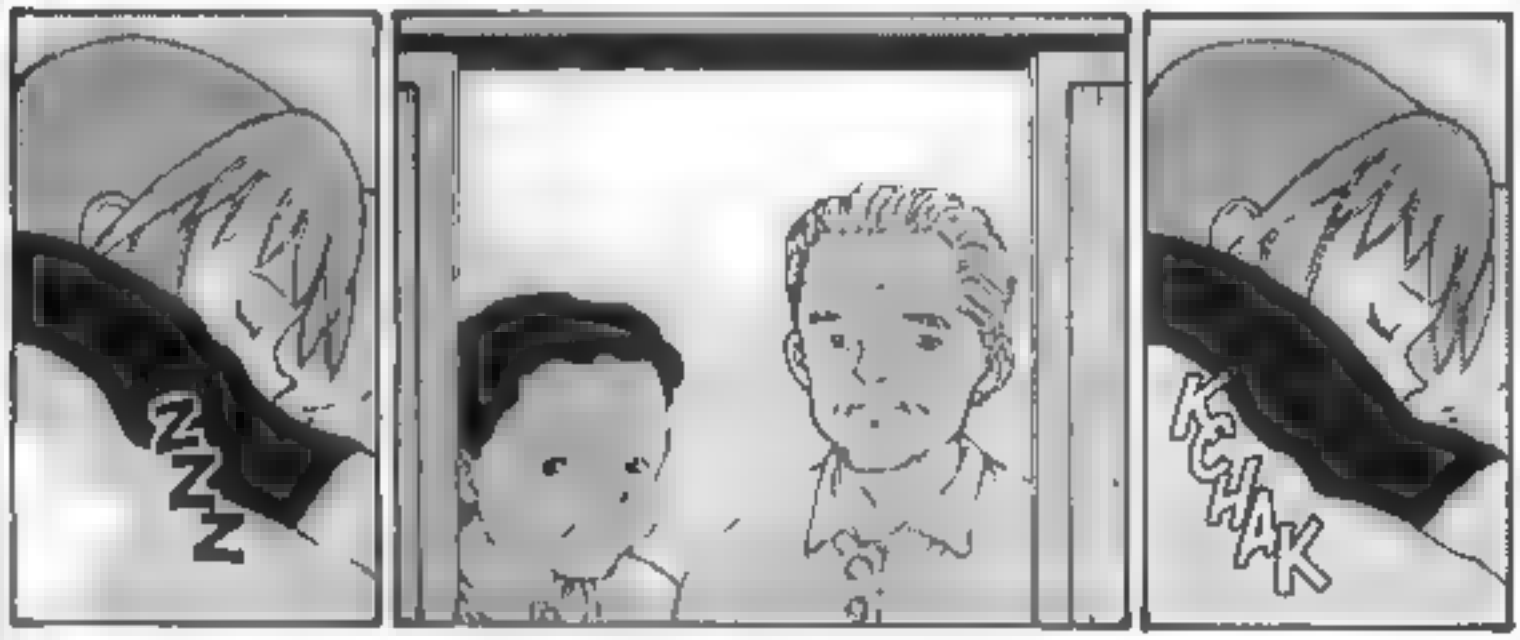
...BROUGHT HER HERE, AND THEN JUST DUMPED HER ON THE DOC'S DOORSTEP?

YES-S,R.

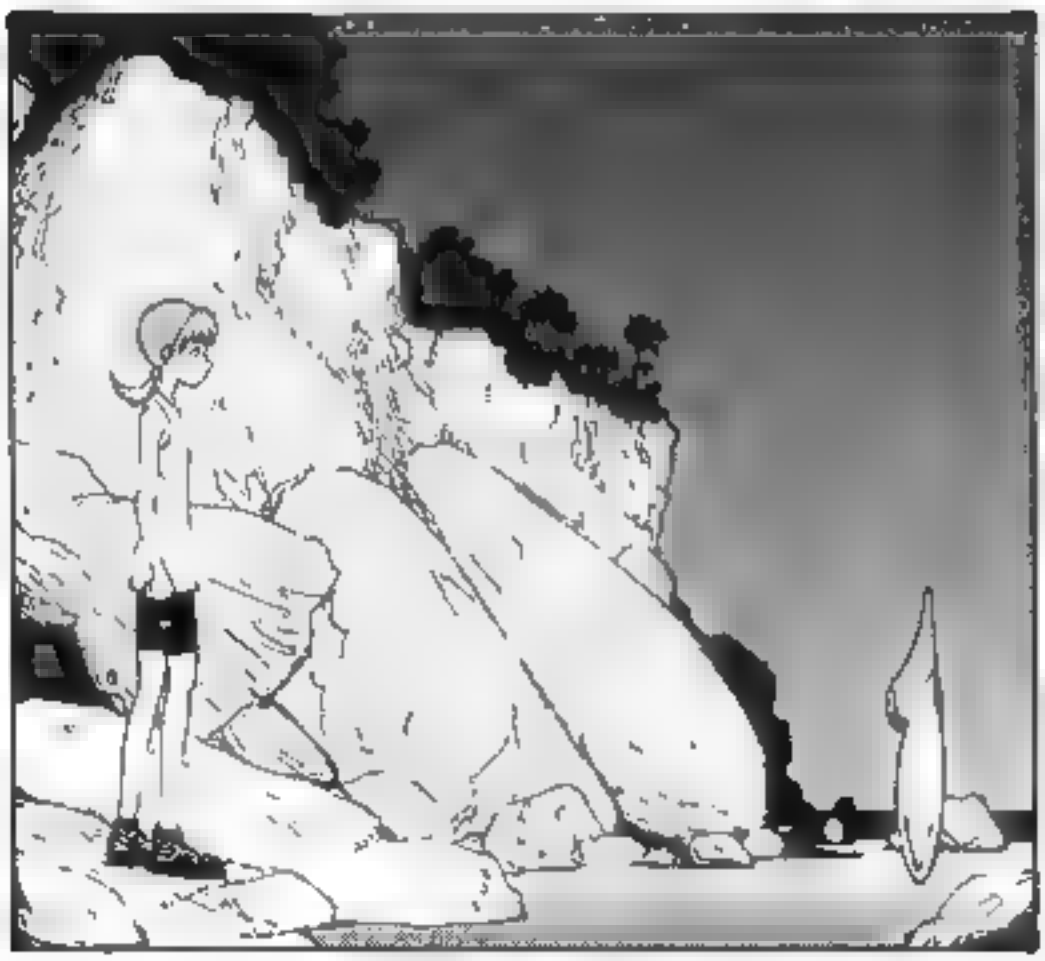
'TAIN'T LIKE I BELIEVE .N *KAMI-KAKUSHI**... BUT THESE ARE STRANGE GOINGS-ON AND THAT'S A FACT, OFFICER.

**"LEGENDARY SUPERNATURAL INHABITANTS OF THE FORESTS, OCCUPYING A SIMILAR PLACE IN RURAL JAPANESE LEGEND TO THE "LITTLE PEOPLE" OF IRELAND*




ZZZ
KCHAK

KCHAK
BONGG
BONGG



=ULP=

S-SO... YOU REALLY WERE... REAL.

WAS IT *YOU* CALLING *ME?*

FWIP

Whssh

YOU...

YOU CAN *FLY* ...?

COOL!

HUH ...?

YOU WANT ME TO... GET ON?

YES?

GSSH

HUP!

WHOO!

WHSSHH
AHOSH!

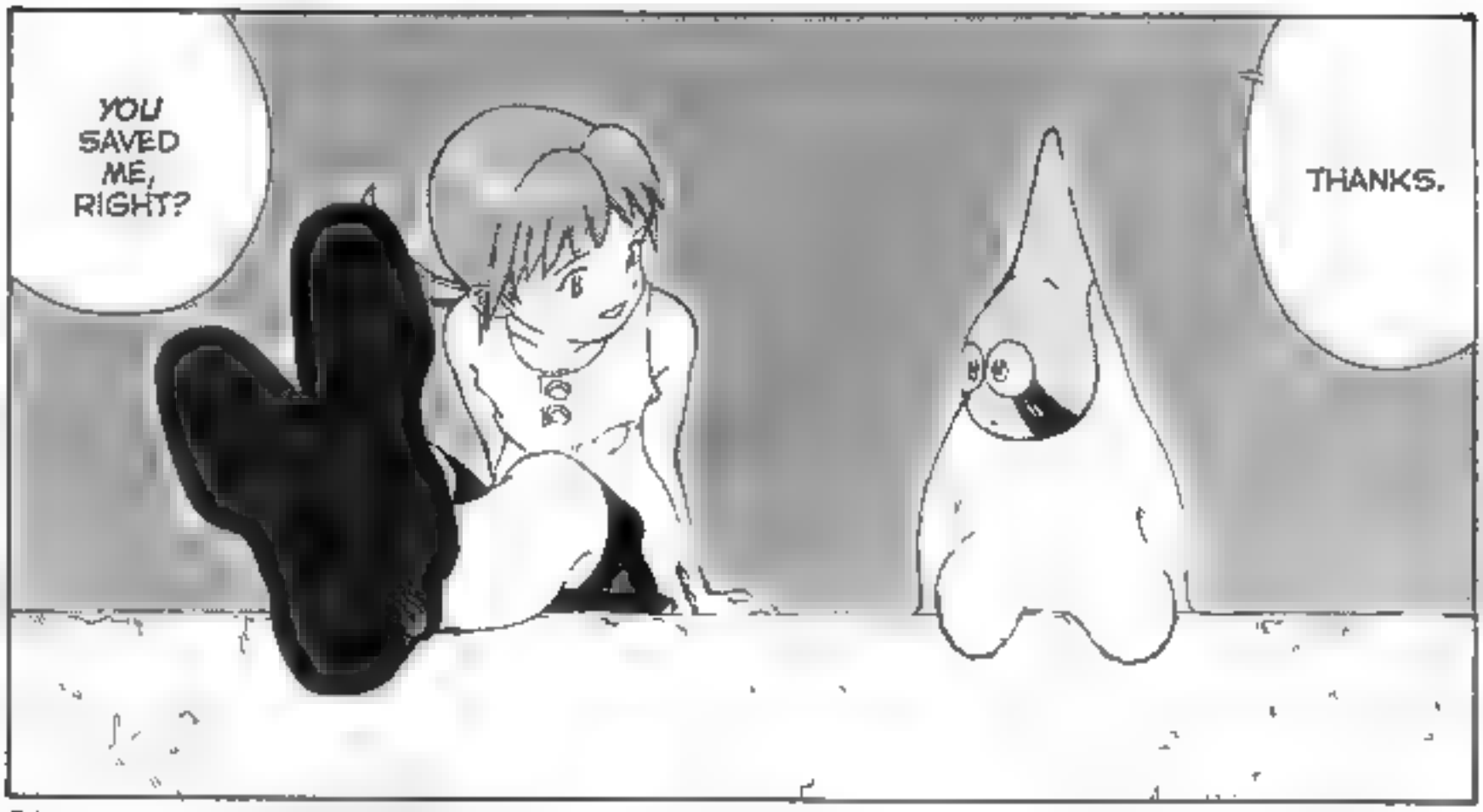
YEEAAA-
HOO!!

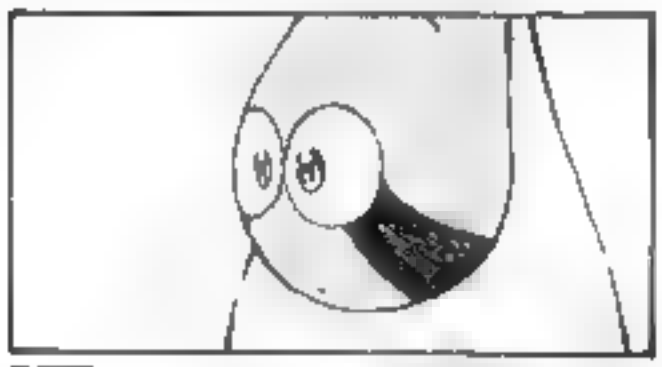
THIS...

THIS
IS SO
COOL!

YOU
ARE
SO
COOL!!

WHSSHHH!


YOU SAVED ME, RIGHT?
THANKS.



THOUGH, ACTUALLY...
...IT WAS PRACTI-CALLY YOUR FAULT I NEARLY DROWNED.

AW, I'M JUST JOKING!
I WAS ALREADY SO WIPED OUT.
UM... CAN YOU UNDER-STAND ME?

DO YOU HAVE A NAME?

Y'KNOW... NAME?

NO NAME, HUH.

RIGHT! THAT'S *IT*. IT JUST SORTA... CAME TO ME.

IT'S *PER-FECT.*

*HOSHI-MARU!*

HOSHI 'CAUSE THAT MEANS "STAR"...

...AND MARU 'CAUSE THAT MEANS "ROUND" ...!

FWIP

WELL, YEAH. I KNOW! BUT REAL SOARS ARE ROUND!

KIND OF A STRANGE NAME, I GUESS.

BUT THE WAY IT JUST SORT OF CAME TO ME...

...I JUST HAD TO CALL YOU THAT.

THEY'RE REAL IMPOR-TANT, Y'KNOW? NAMES.

WELL, I GOTTA GO HOME SOON.

DO YOU LIVE HERE? UNDER THE GATE?

THEN .. WHERE?

Y...YOU WANT TO GO WITH ME?

YOU KNOW...

...YOU CAN'T SEE ALL THESE STARS WHERE I LIVE. IS THAT OKAY?

WAIT A SEC!

HOW AM I GONNA EXPLAIN ABOUT YOU TO OTHER PEOPLE?

HMM...

HUH? YOU GOTTA GO *ALREADY*, SHIINA? GEEZ, *MAJOR* DRAG.

YEAH! IT WENT SO FAST.

I SURE WISH Y'ALL COULD STAY LONGER, SHIINA.

I'D LOVE TO, YUKA.

"BUT I BET MY POOR OL' DAD'S BEEN EATING NOTHING BUT JUNK FOOD ALL WEEK LONG."

CUP O' NOODLES

NOW, SATORU... DON'T Y'ALL CRY, NOW!

HEE HEE!

HA!

YOU DUMB GIRLS DON'T KNOW *NOTHIN'*!

WHAT A BUNCH'A SLOWPOKES! I'M OUTTA HERE!

LAST ONE UP'S A ROTTEN EGG!!

DUMMY... AIN'T NOBODY RUN ALL THE WAY UP, BEFORE!

WHAT A *KID*.

HJH?

C'MON, EVERY-BODY!

'LESS YOU WANNA BE THE ROTTEN EGG!!

HEY! WAIT!

NO FA.R, SHIINA!

HER, TOO?!

GEEZ! HOW COME WE ALL GOTTA RUN?!

'CAUSE IT BUILDS CHAR-ACTER!

OH, MAN... YOU SOUND LIKE MY GRAMPA!

# PRINCESS OF THE EMPTY SKY

#Manga-Sketchbook@WONDERnet

Scanned : Jinchi
Edited : Finnpest

SHIIIINA!

COME BACK SOON!

I WILL!

VNNNNNN

VNNNNN

HEY, SHINA!

PROMISE ...!!

SATORU SAYS HE *LOVES* YOU!

*DID NOT!* GEEZ!

BYE-
BYE!!

SHALL WE TAKE HER UP...?

ROGER, CAP'N!

NO TRAFFIC!

RUNWAY CLEAR!

RETRACT THE SHIINA!

VRNNNNNN

VVVNNN

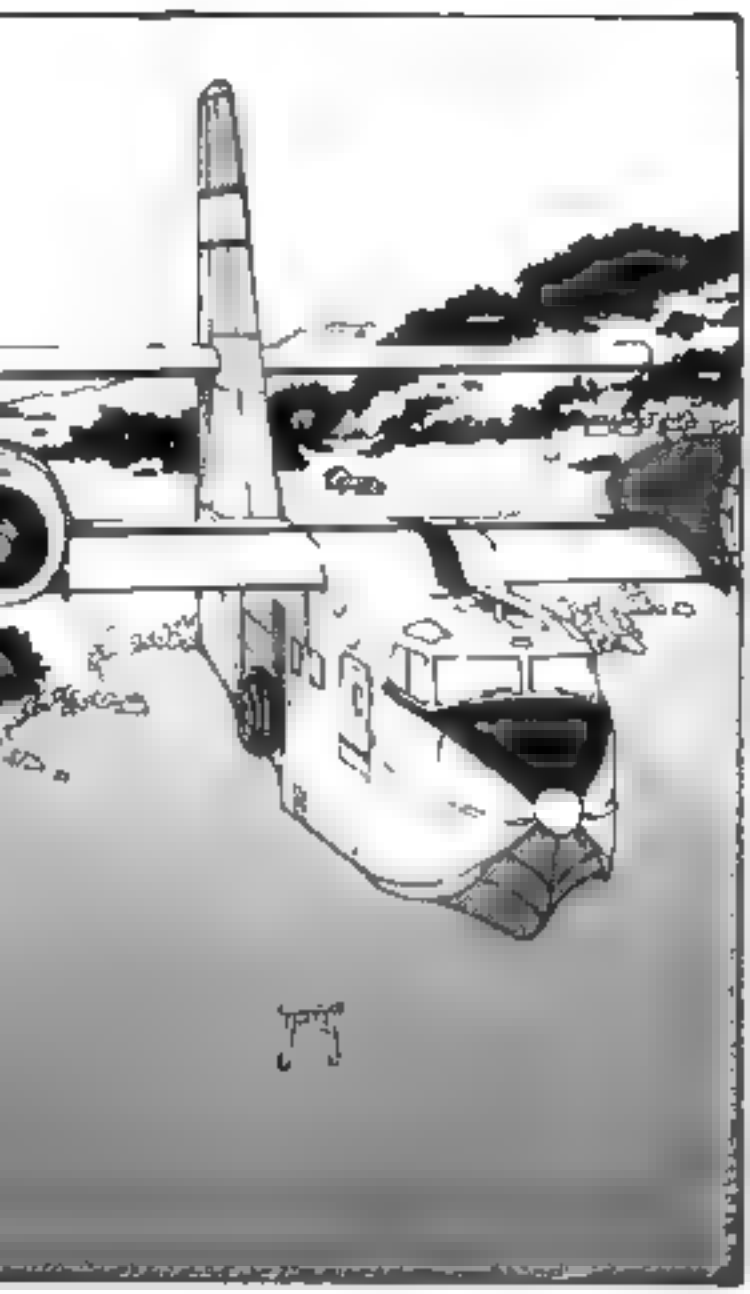
WHAT YOU ALL GOOEY-EYED ABOUT?!

THOK

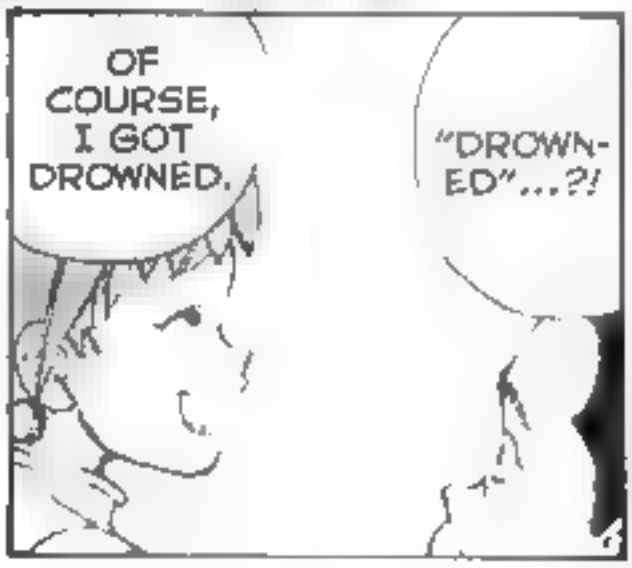
OW! HEY!

I DUNNO... JUST... *AIR-PLANES,* Y'KNOW?

JUST DON'T SEEM RIGHT THAT THEY CAN FLY. KINDA SCARY...

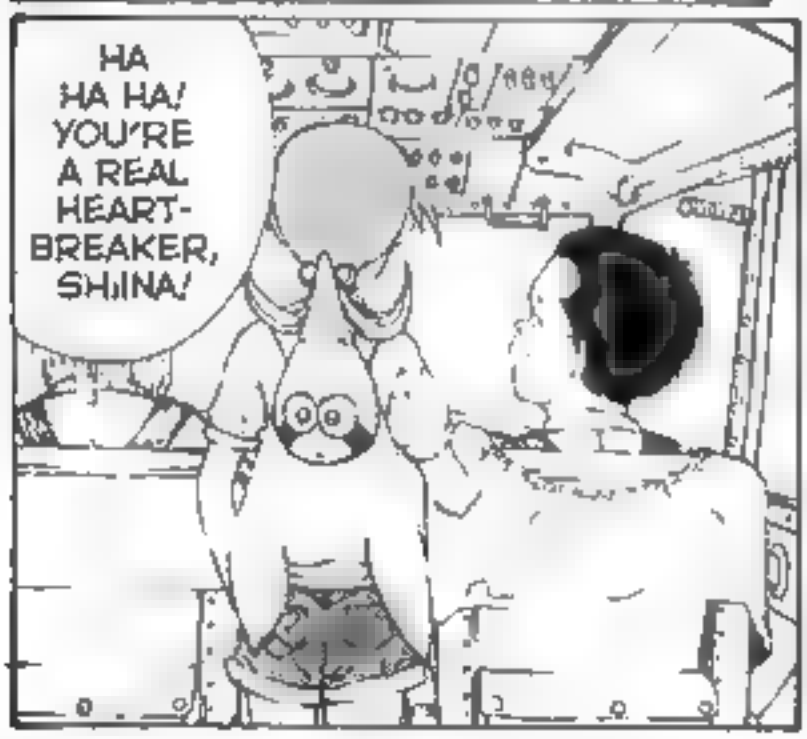


SO... YOU HAVE FUN ON THE ISLAND?
YOU BET! IT WAS *TOTALLY* FUN!


OF COURSE, I GOT DROWNED.
"DROWN-ED"...?!

BJT DON'T TELL DADDY!
IT WASN'T A BIG DEAL.

AND LIKE, THE BOYS WOULDN'T GO HOME AFTER-WARDS...
THEY ALL CRASHED AT GRAMPY AN' GRAM'S PLACE!


HA HA HA! YOU'RE A REAL HEART-BREAKER, SHINA!

*NO WAY!* NO, REALLY... IT'S NOT LIKE THAT. IT'S MORE LIKE...
...WE'RE ALL ONE BIG FAMILY.

IT'LL BE KIND OF LONELY BACK HOME... AFTER THIS.

OH, YEAH. YOU'RE AN ONLY CHILD, AREN'T YOU?

I FOR-GOT.

NOW, NOW-- HE SAID, "I'M A TREASURE AND A DELIGHT TO MY FATHER'S EYES"...!

DON'T QUOTE ME ON THAT, GIRL!

I KINDA ENVY YOU. I HAD *TOO MANY* BROTHERS.

IT WAS *SUCH* A HAS-SLE...

REALLY? WHY? WHAT'S SO BAD ABOUT BROTHERS?

I'D *LOVE* IT IF I HAD EVEN *ONE* BROTHER!

OH, *NO* YOU WOULDN'T.

YOU DON'T HAVE ANY PRIVACY AT *ALL*.

*AAH...* LIVING ALONE'S SUCH A RELIEF!

VNNNN

PRIVACY? FOR WHAT?

VRNNNNNN

DON'T YOU LISTEN TO HIM, SHIINA... HE DOESN'T KNOW HOW TO TALK AROUND YOUNG LADIES.

SAY-- WHAT'S THAT YOU'VE GOT THERE?

I'VE BEEN WONDER-ING.

OH, THIS...?

A *BACK-PACK.*

PICKED IT UP ON THE ISLAND.

*MEGA-* CUTE, HUH?

WELL...

...AS LONG AS *YOU* THINK SO.

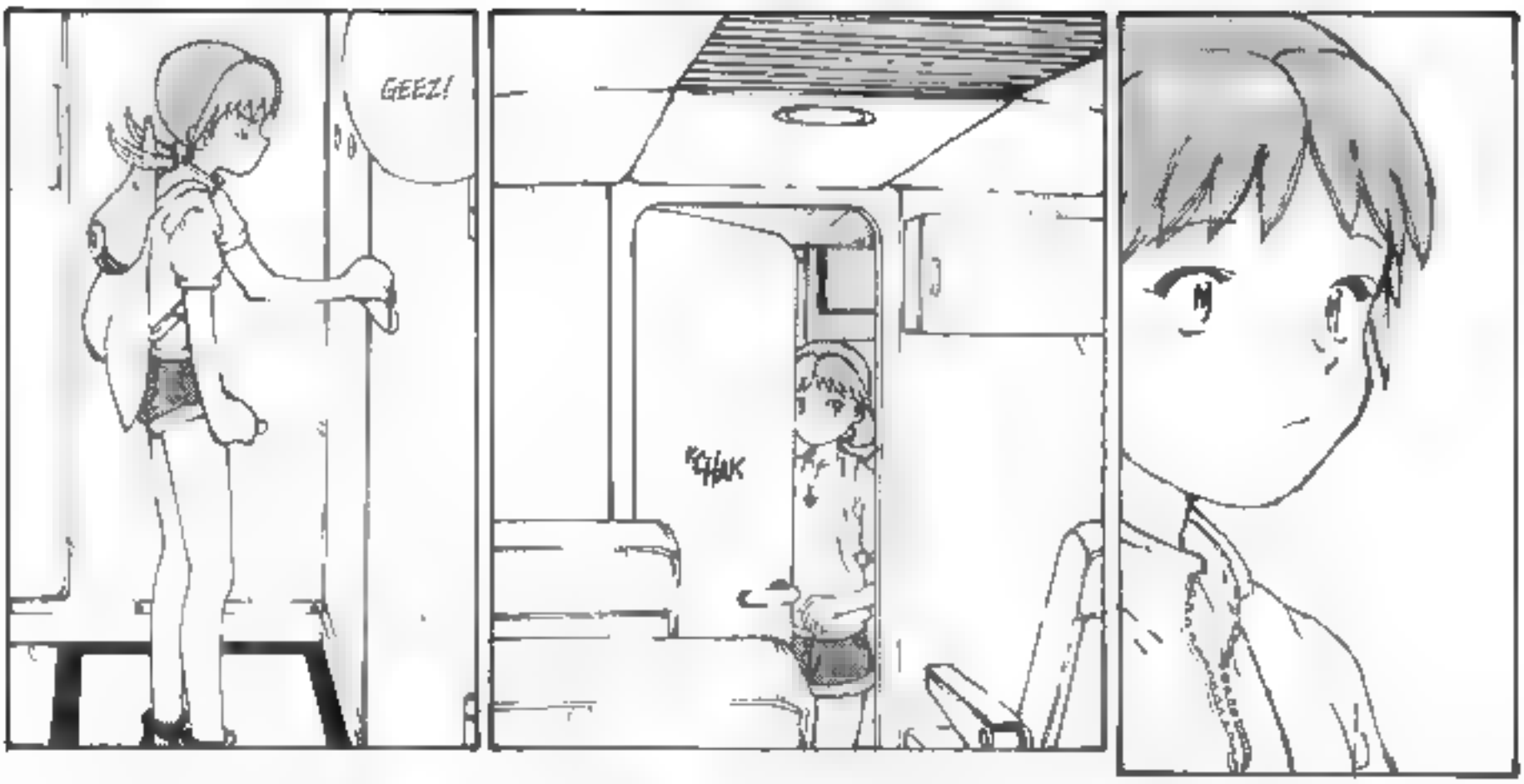
HE MEANS--

--IT'S *WEIRD.*

*HMPH!* I'M OUTTA HERE!

WHERE TO?

THE *PASSENGER COMPARTMENT,* IF YOU DON'T MIND!


GEEZ!
KCHAK

OH...?

HEY HEY HEY!!

WHAM

YOU'VE GOT P-P-PASSENGERS!

DON'T RUN IN AN AIRPLANE DEAR

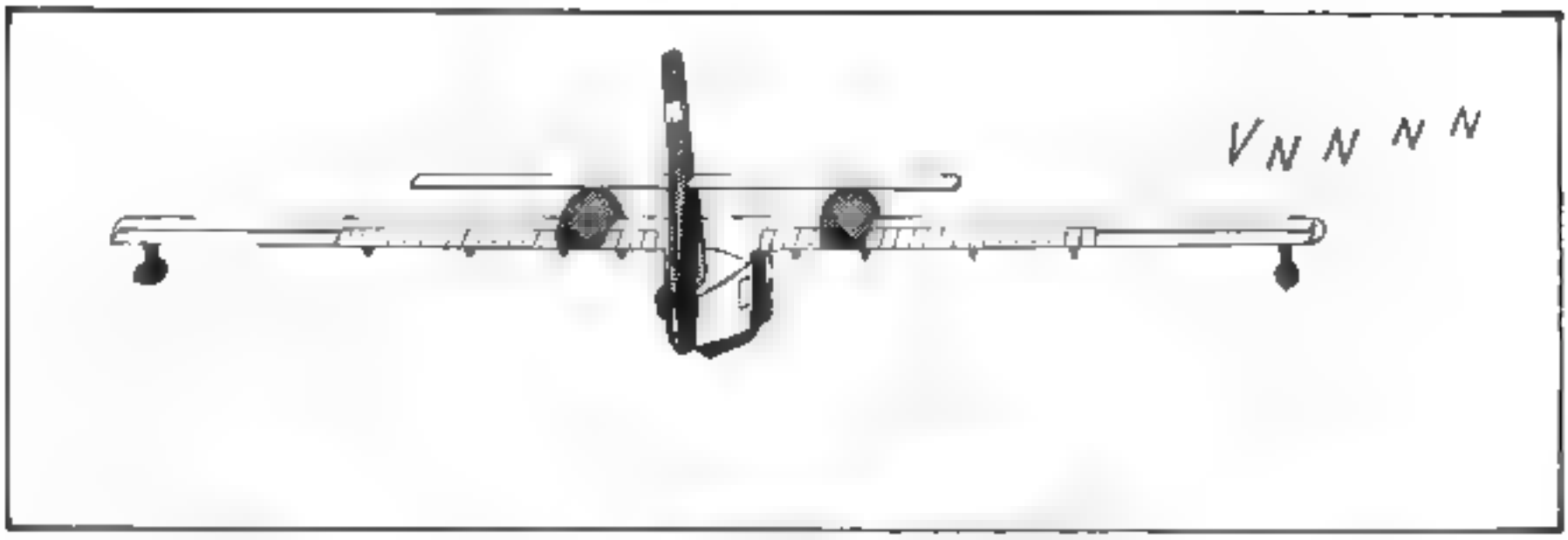
YES...?

THAT'S HOW WE MAKE OUR LIVING... ISN'T IT?

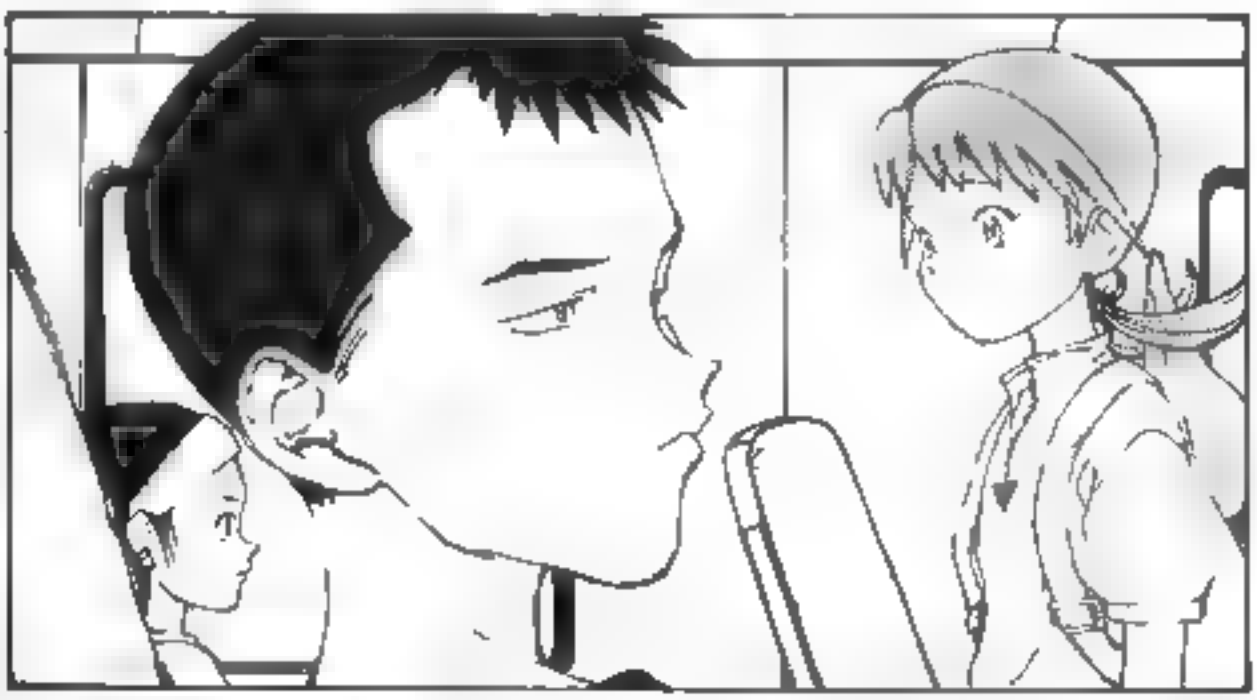
SUPER STEWARDESS SHIINA TO THE RESCUE!

TA-DAH!

WHOA! WHOA!! YOU BEHAVE YOURSELF WITH THE PAYING CUSTOMERS, SHIINA!


VNNNN

KCHAK



HMM...HE LOOKS LIKE SOMEONE YOU WOULDN'T WANNA MESS WITH...

WOW... SHE'S *BEAUTIFUL!*

I WONDER IF THEY KNOW EACH OTHER?
JUST FRIENDS, OR WHAT...?

CUTE BAG YOU'VE GOT THERE.

ISN'T IT?! YOU REALLY THINK SO?!

IT'S UGLY AND SO ARE YOU.

WHAT?! WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?!

HEY...?! THAT'S A BOY!

HOW GOES THE "STEWARD-ESSING"...?

*LEMME ALONE!*

THANKS FOR RUINING ALL MY HARD WORK.

JUST *GREAT.*

"WORK" ...?

DOESN'T SEEM RIGHT TO CALL IT WORK WHEN YOU ENJOY IT SO MUCH.

SHE'S QUITE TO YOUR TASTE, ISN'T SHE?

YOU REALLY KNOW ME, DON'T YOU.

*DISGUST-INGLY* WELL.

*: CLEAR AIR TURBULENCE

YOU'RE SURE IN A BITCHY MOOD TODAY. WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM, ANYWAY?

I JUST CAN'T BRING MYSELF TO LIKE THAT SIDE OF YOU.

HUH. THAT'S A RELIEF.

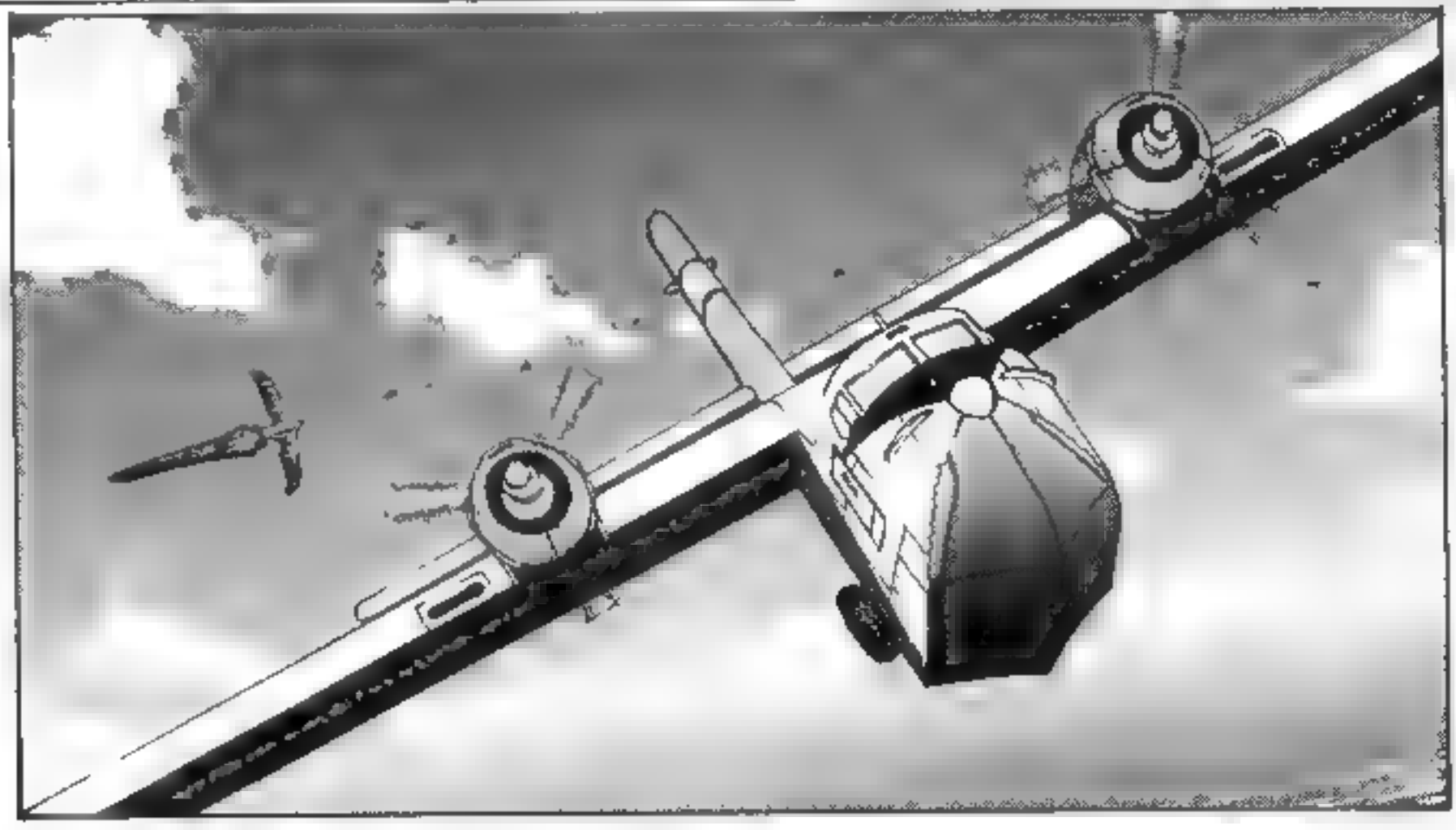
←

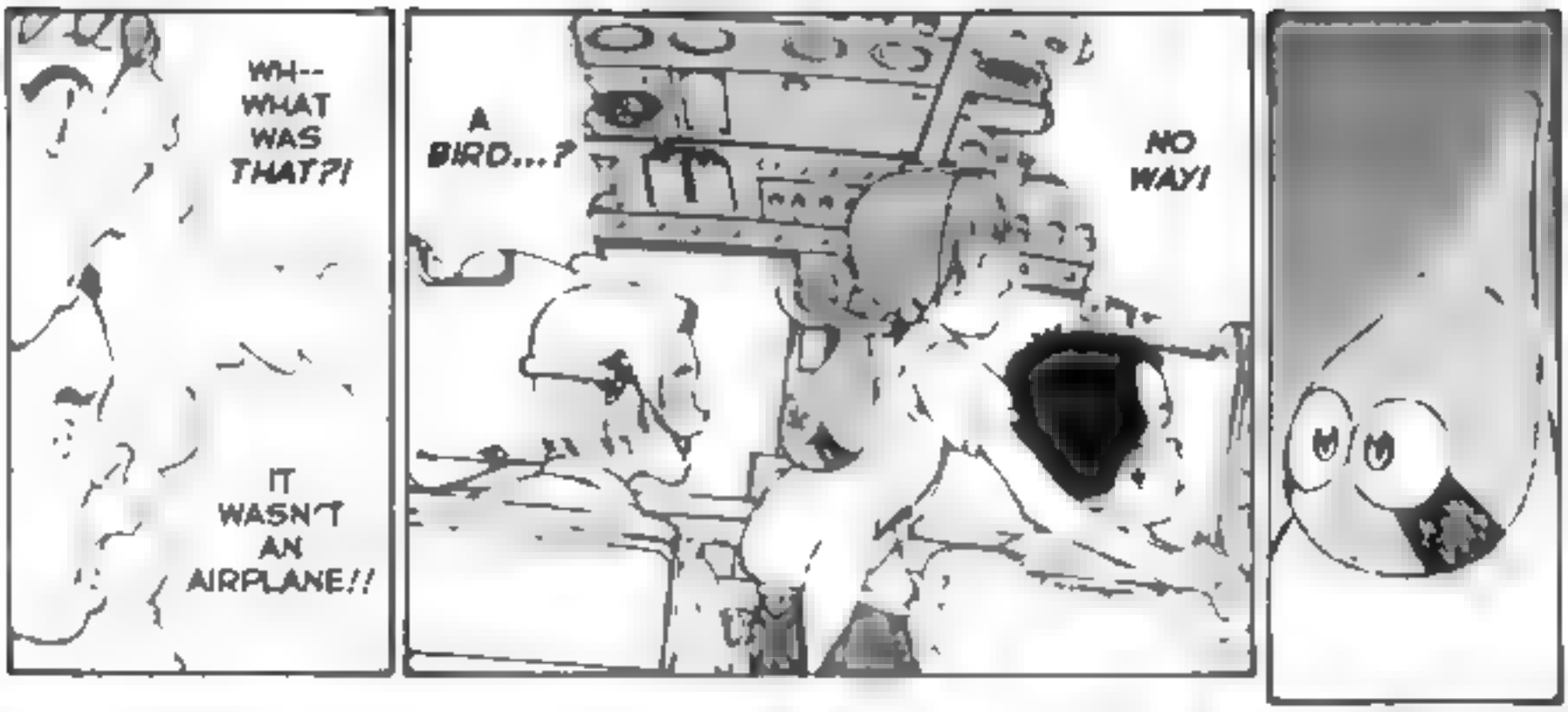
WE'RE ON A COLLISION COURSE!!

HARD RIGHT, NINETY DEGREES!

HOLD ON, SHIINA!

WHOOSH




WH--
WHAT
WAS
THAT?!
IT
WASN'T
AN
AIRPLANE!!
A
BIRD...?
NO
WAY!

WHSSHH

GOOD GOD ALMIGHTY!

WHAT THE HELL *IS* THAT THING?!

IS THAT ONE OF YOUR FRIENDS...?

NO...?

JH-OH.

IT'S A *SHADOW DRAGON.*

WHAT ARE THEY THINKING? LETTING THEMSELVES BE SEEN...

IF THEY'RE PLANNING TO BRING THIS PLANE DOWN...

...IT HARDLY MATTERS, DOES IT?

BUT *WHY?*

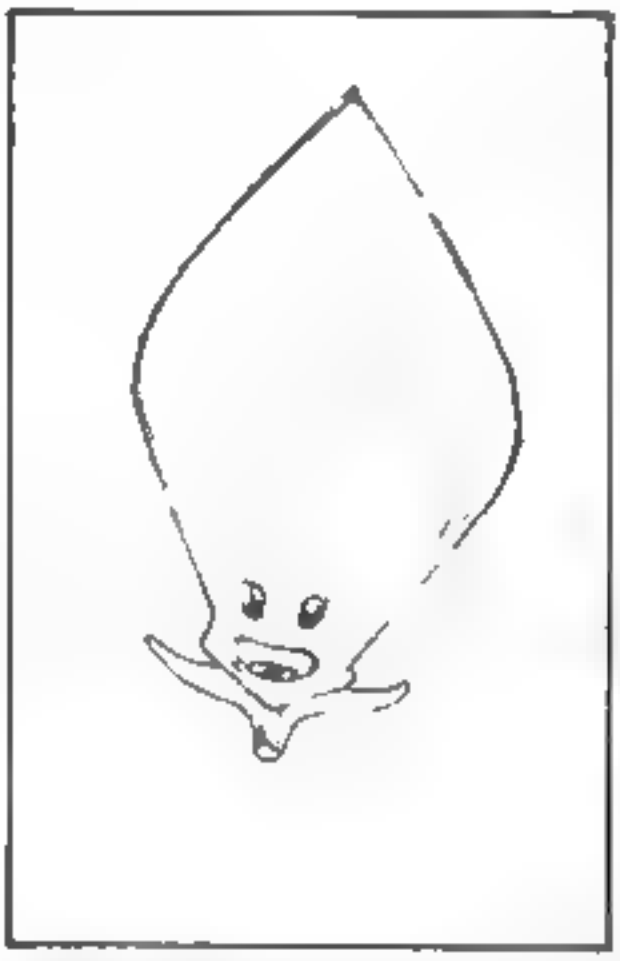
YOU THINK THEY'RE AFTER THE GIRL ...?

UNLIKELY. NOT YET, ANYWAY.

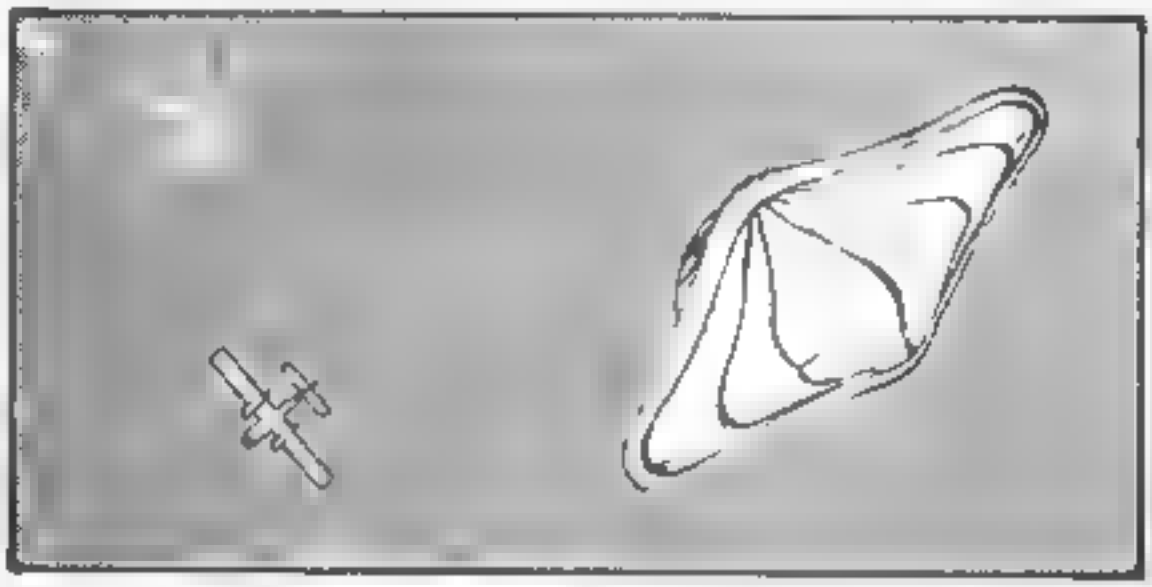
IF I WAS TO GUESS, I'D SAY...

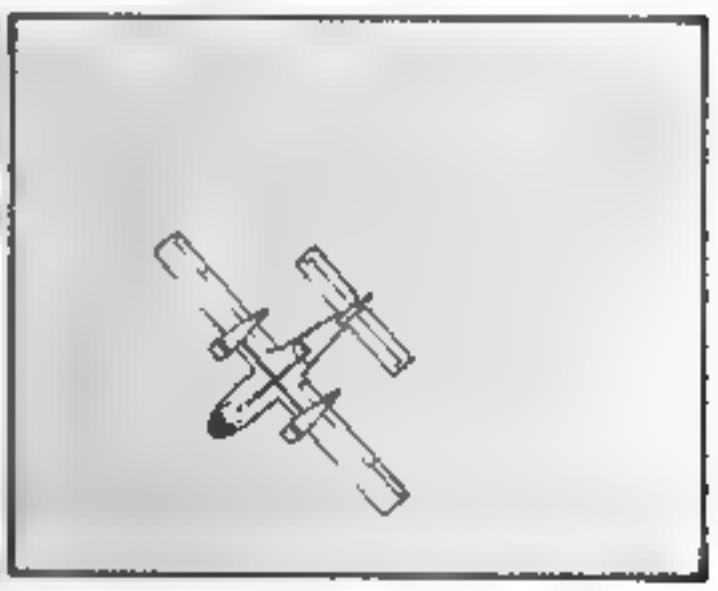
IT'S *US,* OR ELSE..

...THEY'RE JUST PLAYING AROUND.

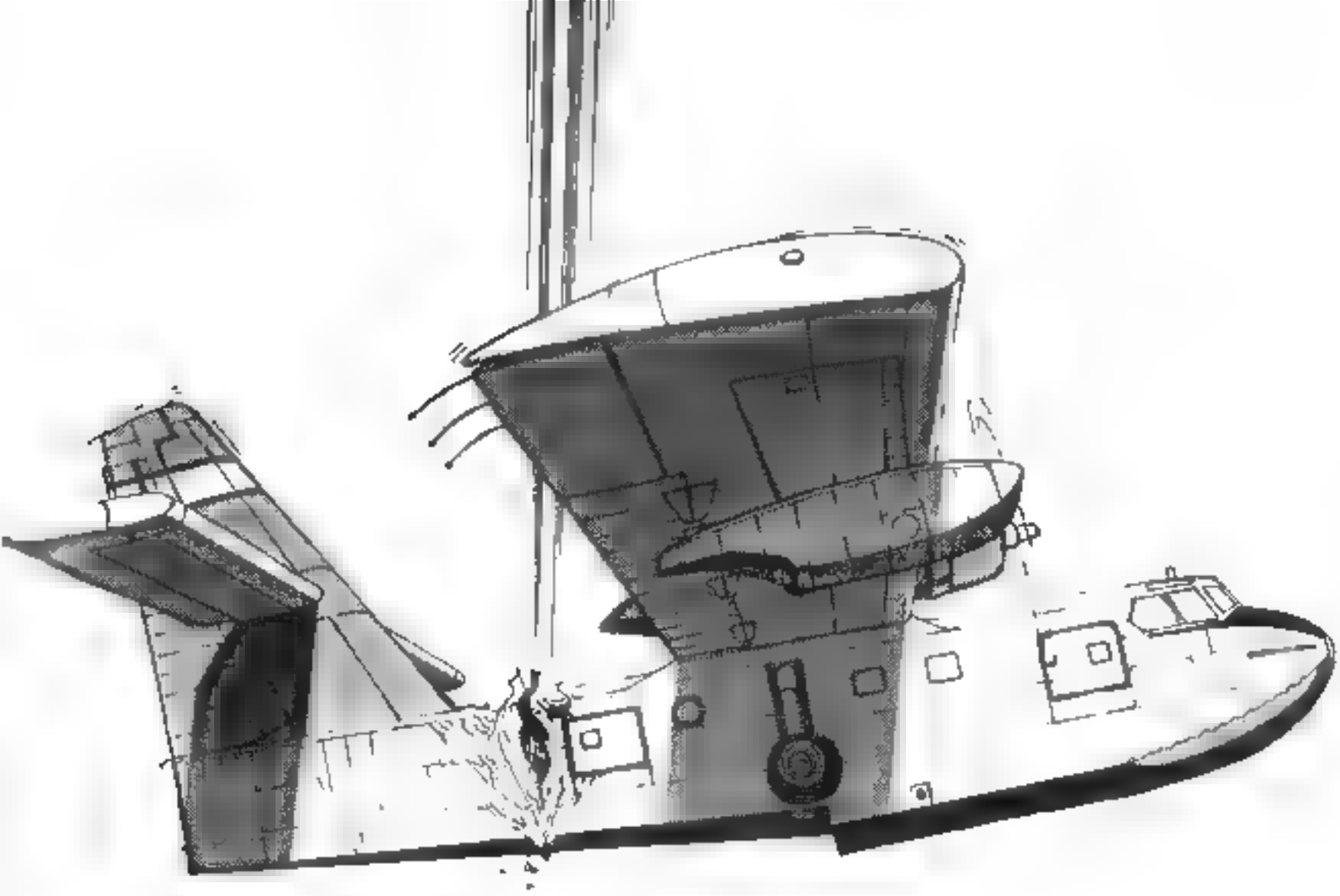


UP THERE!!

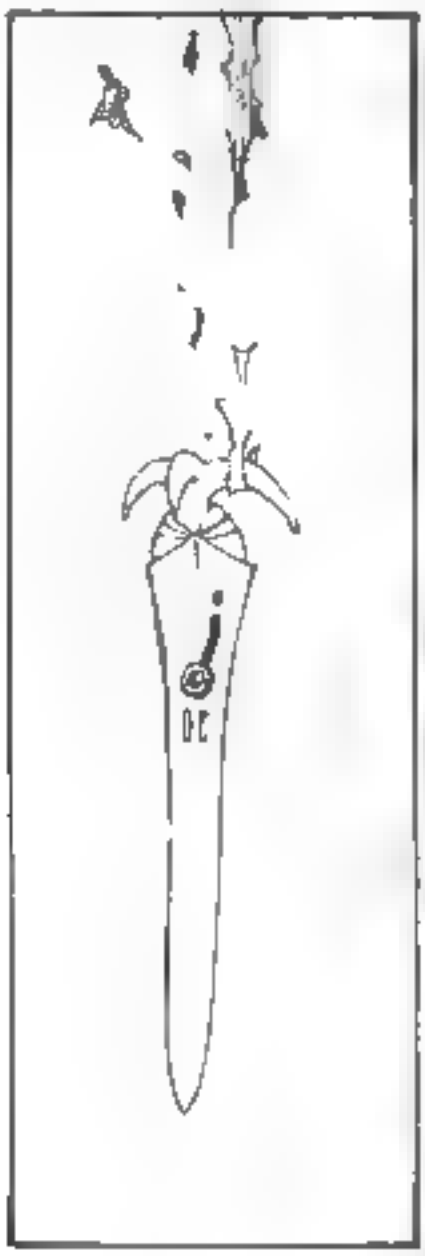


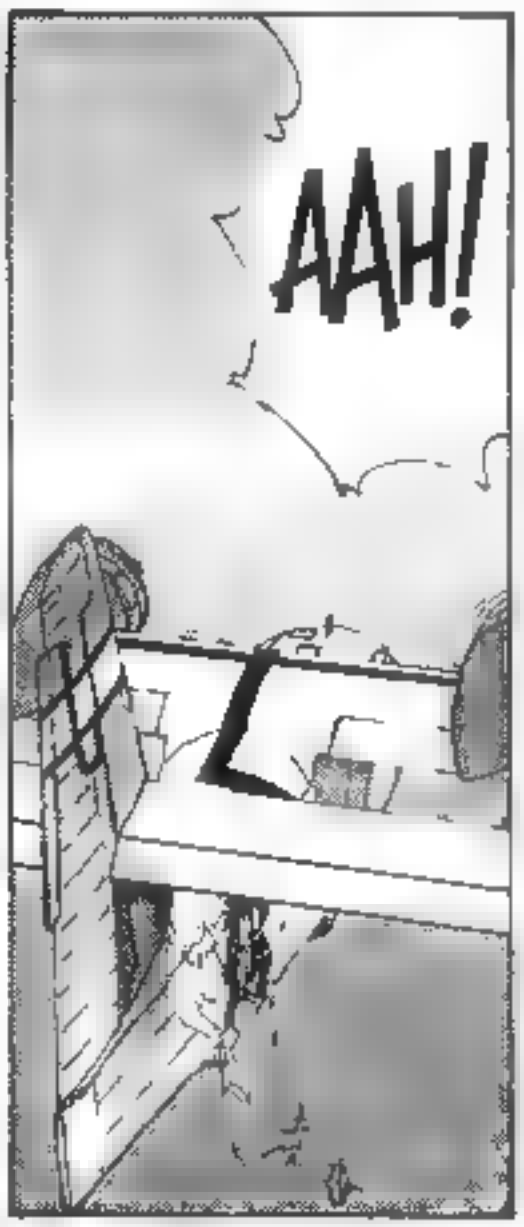


WHERE'D IT GO?!
LOST HIM!

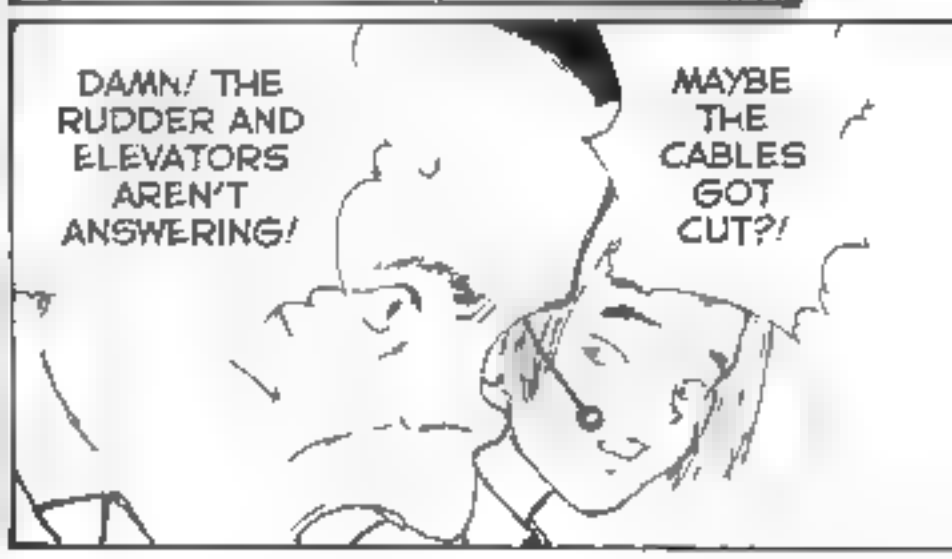


SPRAKK




AAH!

IT HIT US!


DAMN! THE RUDDER AND ELEVATORS AREN'T ANSWERING!
MAYBE THE CABLES GOT CUT?!

SHIINA! STAY HERE!

C'MON-- SOME-ONE'S GOTTA CHECK THE PASSEN-GERS!!

HMPH. LOOKS LIKE THEY MEAN IT.

STILL, WHAT A PATHE-TICALLY PRIMITIVE ATTACK.

YOU CAN SURE TELL THE LEVEL OF WHOEVER'S CONTROLLING IT.

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO? MY SHADOW DRAGON IS FOLLOWING US, BUT IT DOESN'T HAVE ANY AIR-TO-AIR WEAPONRY YET.

WE CAN'T USE YOURS, RIGHT?

NOT THAT YOU'D HAVE ANY DECENT WEAPONS, ANYWAY.

NAW. LET'S JUST WAIT AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS.

*HEY!!* ARE YOU GUYS ALL RIGHT?!

UH... YEAH.

WHY? GEE... IS SOME THING GOING ON?

I'M GONNA CHECK THE TAIL SECTION!!

OH, *THAT* WAS CONVINCING! YOU SURE ARE A LOUSY ACTOR.

WHSSSHHH

WHOAAA!

THIS COULD BE BAD.

KRIK

SKREEK

EMER-GENCY! EMER-GENCY!

TH'S IS J-DOUBLE-ALPHA SQUAWKING SEVEN-SEVEN-HUNDRED!

WHERE'S IT GONE?!

IT CAN'T HAVE SURVIVED *THAT*?!

IT'S COMING BACK!!

IF WE'RE HIT AGAIN...

...THE PLANE'LL BREAK UP!

C'MON, HOSHI-MARU!

WE'VE GOTTA DO *SOME-THING!*

NNNGH!

SKREEK

:gasp:
:wheeze:
:hahh:

SHRIK

.....!

FWHSSHHH

HYAAH!

HAAH!
WHOK

NAILED THE VARMINT!

I WASN'T SURE WHERE TO HIT IT, BUT--

UH-OH! BAD NEWS...

...WE'LL GET LEFT BEHIND!

WAHH! WHOA! WHAT?!

FWHTT

fft

WH SSH

ulp

HYAAH!

SHIKK

eh heh heh

YOW!

FWHFF

RUN AWAY! RUN AWAY!

VWHIPP

WHOA!

AAAH!?

WAAAH!

WHIP

HOSHI-
MARUUU!

OH!

WHSSH

THUK

NO!!

HOSHI-
MARUUU!

GCCH

THIS TIME AM I REALLY...

...GOING TO DIE?

FATHER...

...I'M SORRY.

NO...

NO! NOT HERE, LIKE THIS!

I DON'T WANNA--

DIIIIEEEE

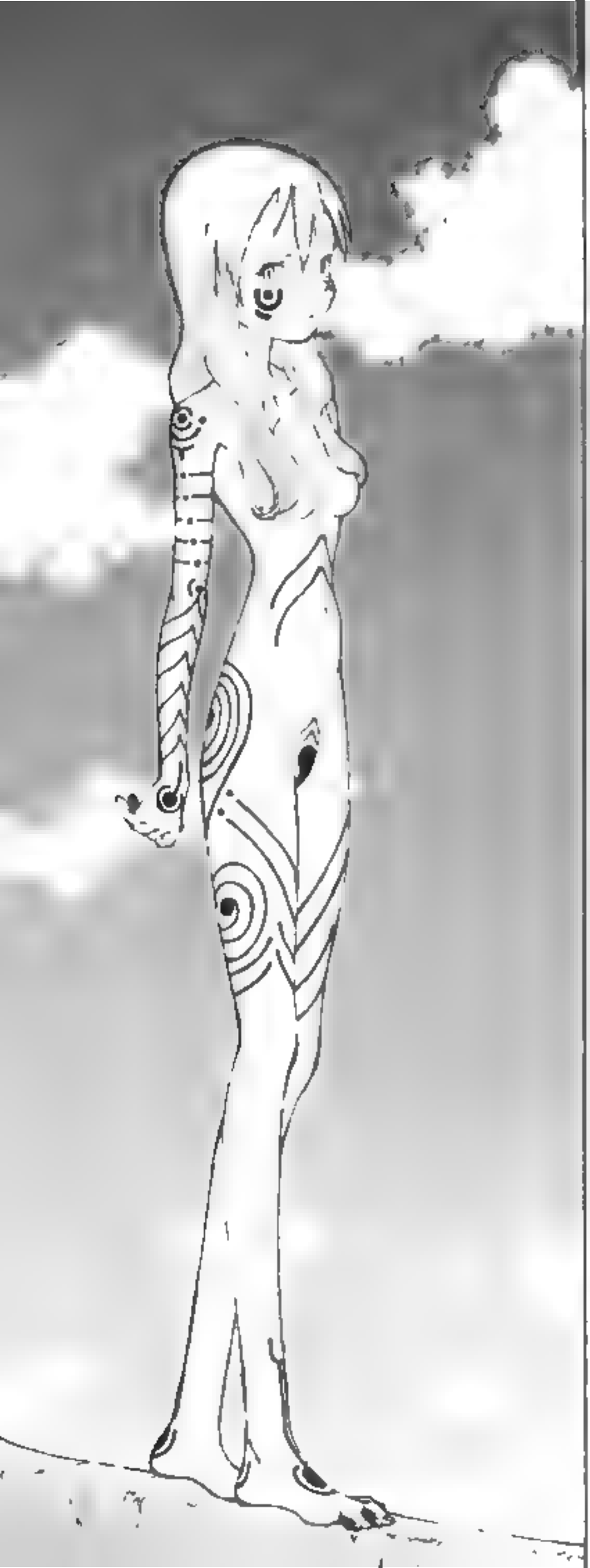
EE!

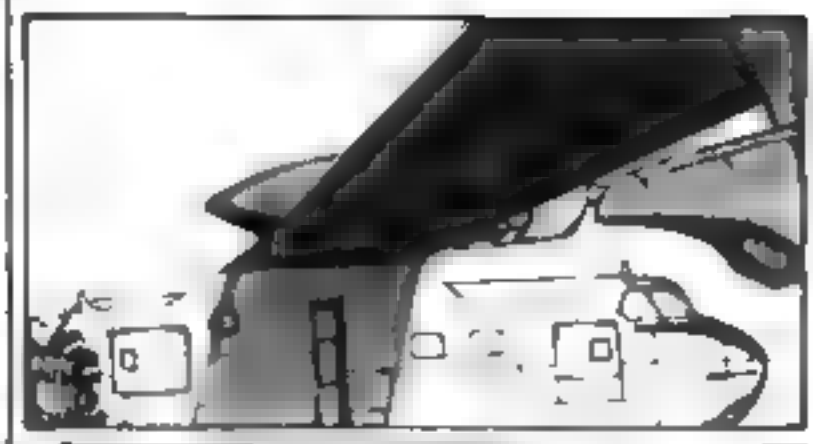
AH?!

WHBLOOSH

MMD

SPLSSSH

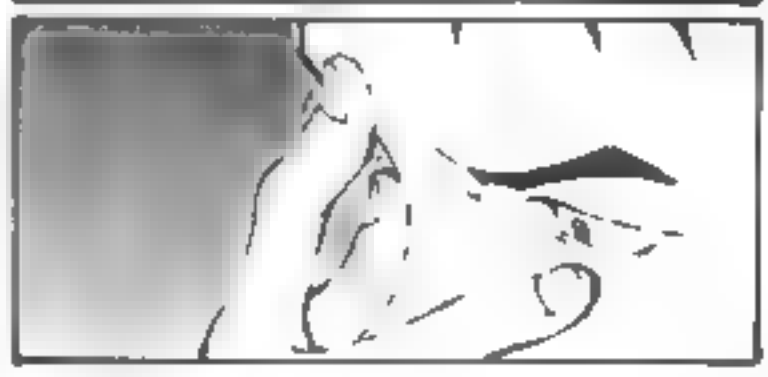




A DRA-GON!
WHAT'S ONE DO NG HERE?!

IT...IT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN AN ADULT DRAGON.

AND... ISN'T THAT...



...A VIRGIN PRINCESS?!

GNNN

NNNNN

VWHIP

BKAM

SPAK

FZZ

LAAK

HOSHI-
MARU?!

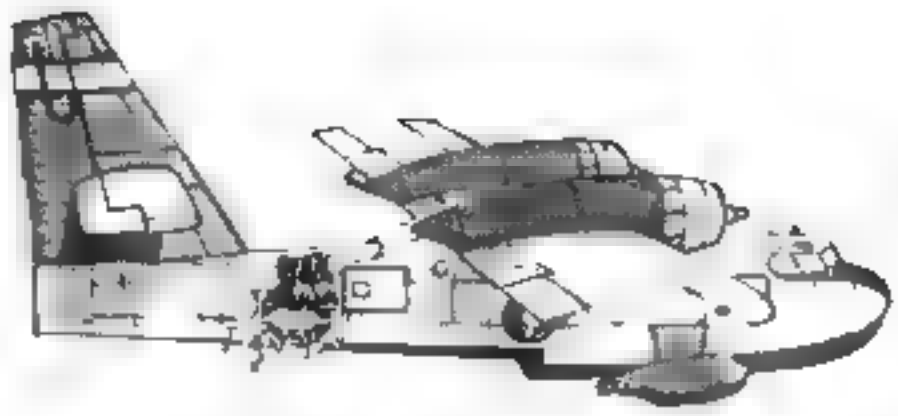
FWAP

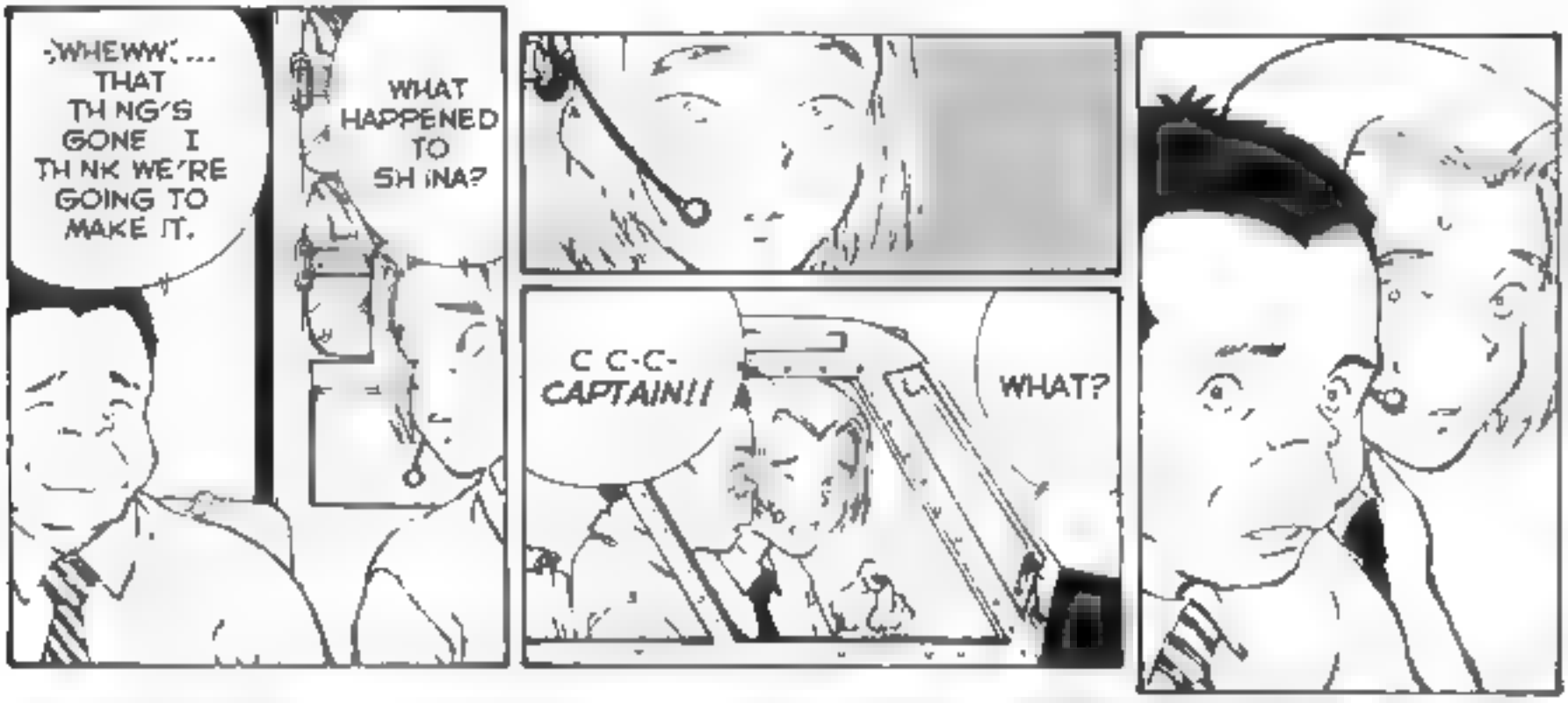
OH,
HOSHI!!!
♥

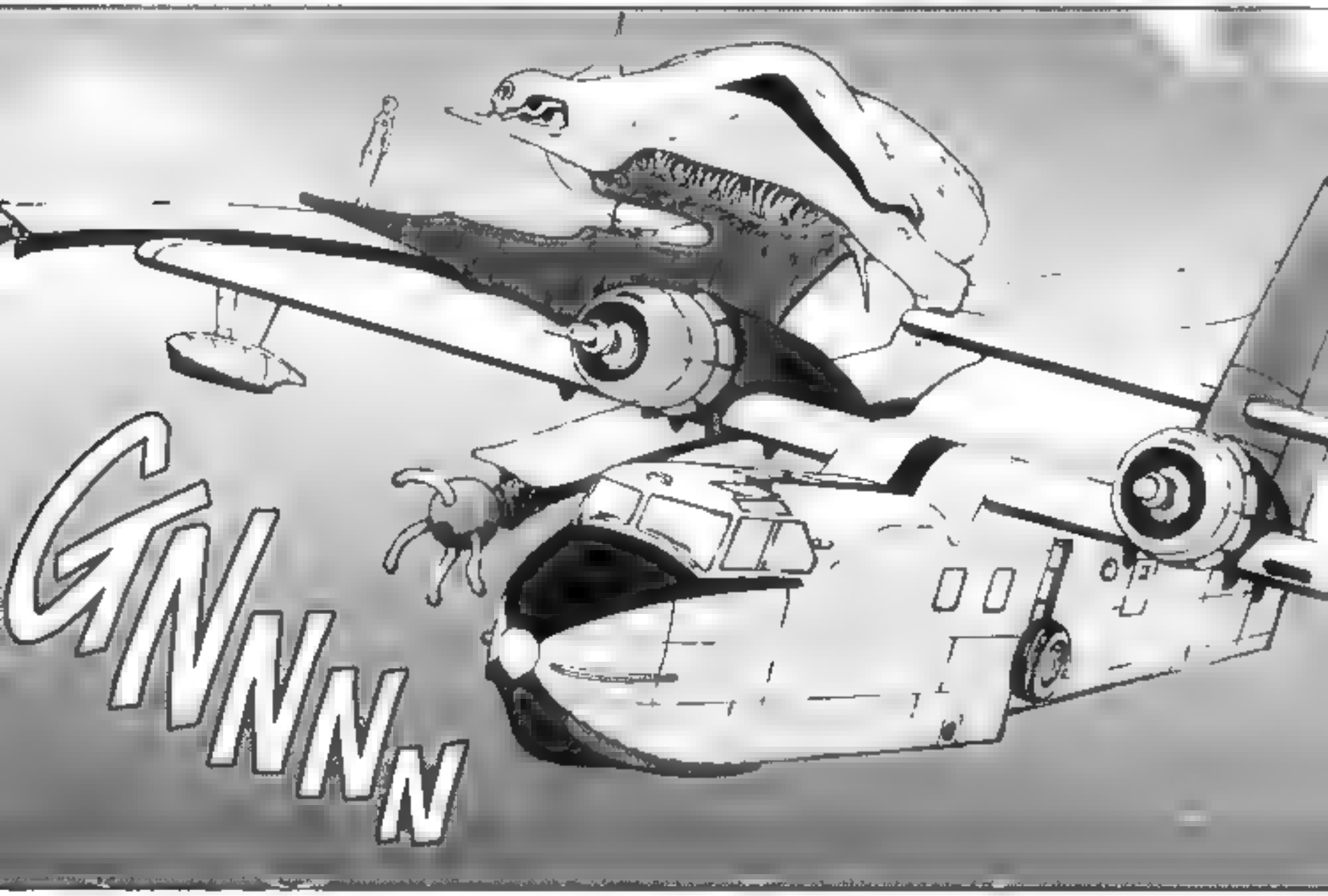
VVVVN

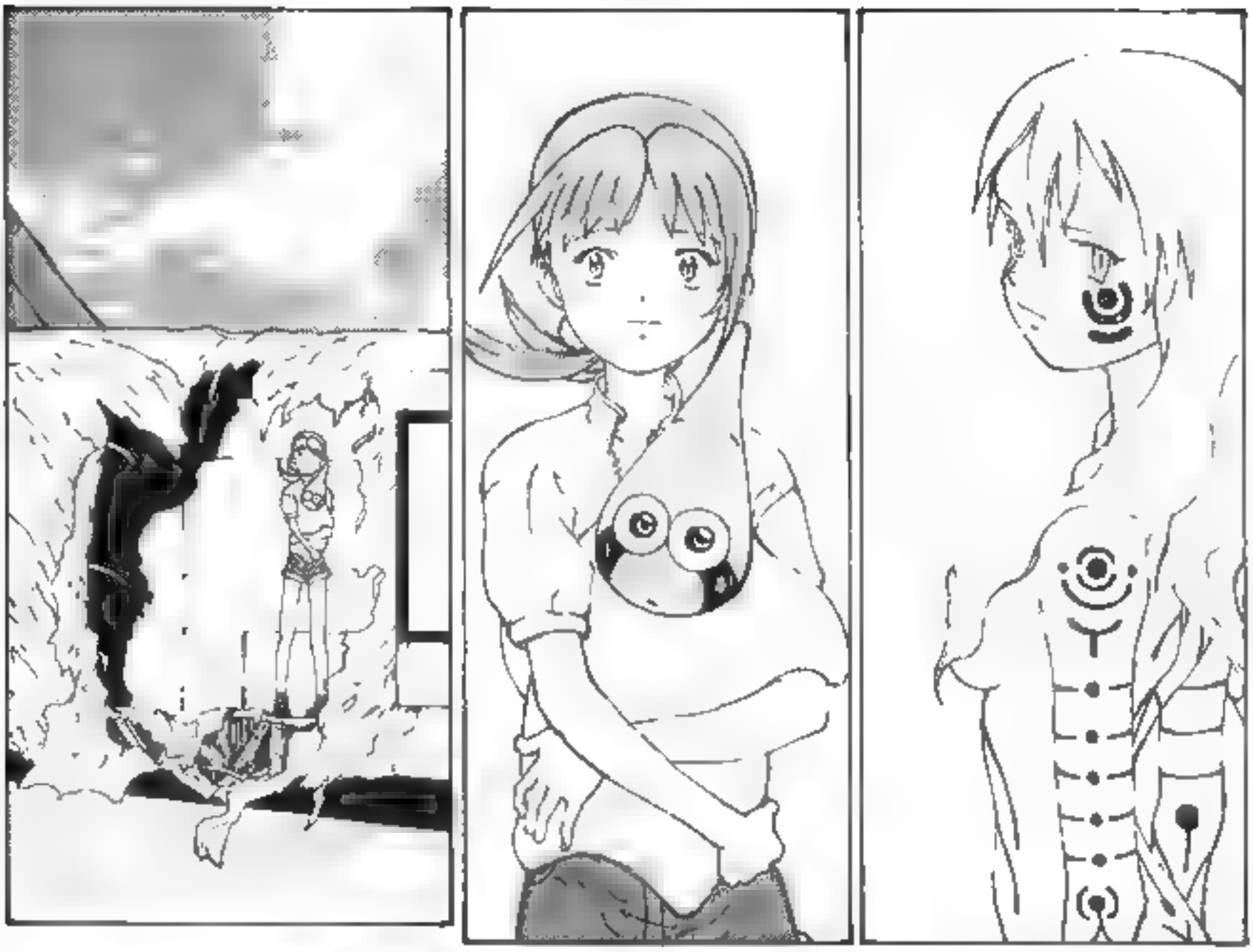
AH
...?

FWHOOOSH



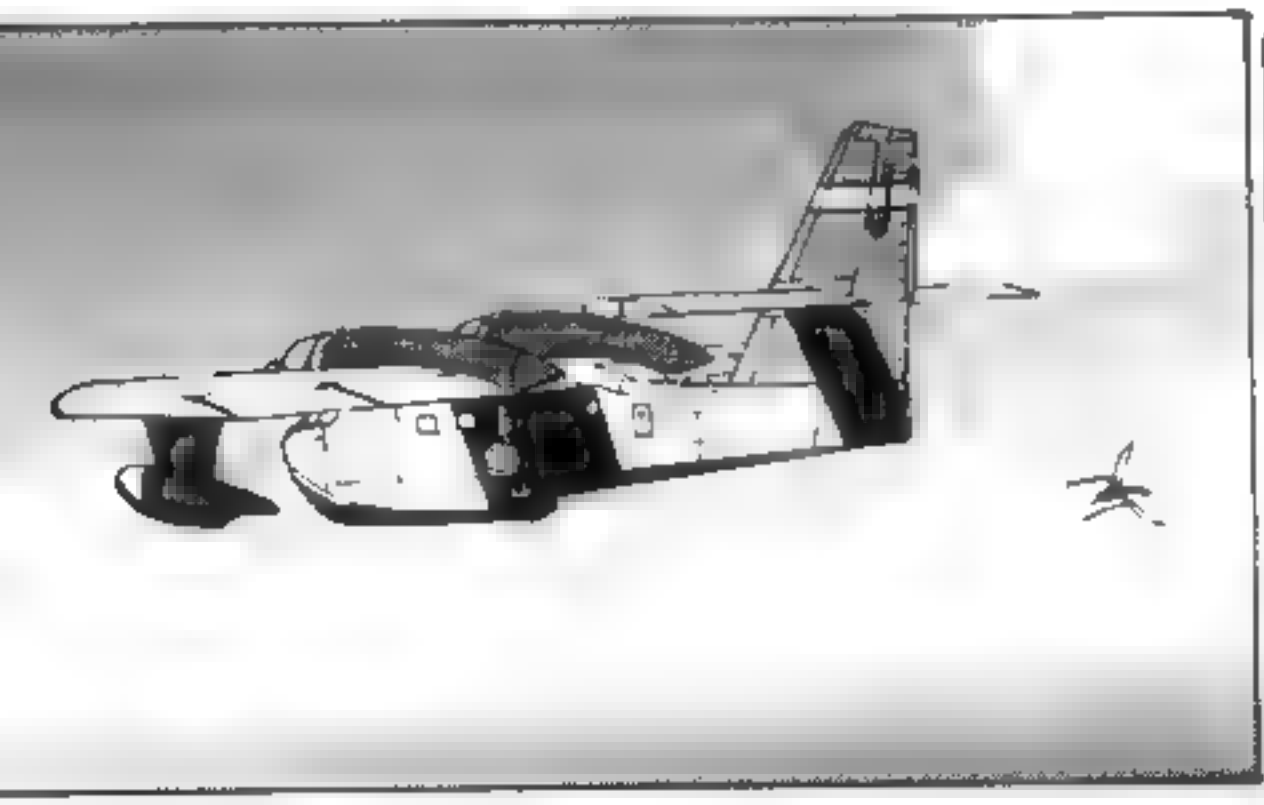

;WHEWW:...
THAT TH NG'S GONE I TH NK WE'RE GOING TO MAKE IT.
WHAT HAPPENED TO SH INA?
C C-C-
CAPTAIN!!
WHAT?


GNNNN



THANK
YOUUU!!

HWSSSSHHHHHHHHH



WHEWWW!

OH!

HOSHI-MARU! ARE YOU OKAY?!

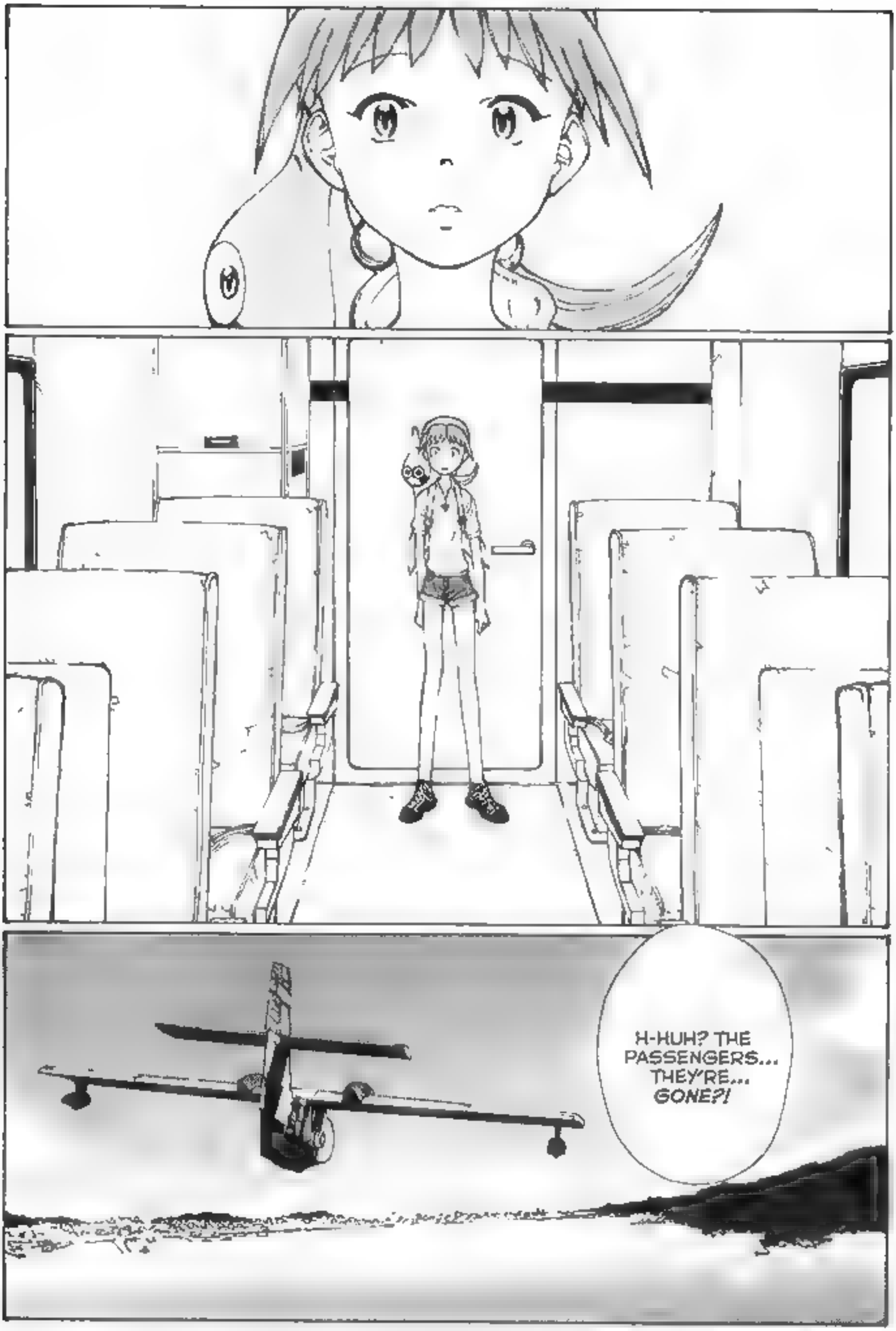
YOU GOT--?!?

RUB

RUB

YOU KNOW... *WHATEVER* YOU ARE--

--YOU ARE *REALLY* AWESOME!


H-HUH? THE PASSENGERS... THEY'RE... GONE?!

# THE RAZOR'S EDGE

#Manga Sketchbook@WONDERnet

Scanned . Jnch
Edited : Finnpest

201

SHUNJI TAMA
SHIINA TAMAI

YAWWWNN

=sighh=

sh
ss
s

TAKE A "WOK" WITH MEEE...

GIMME WHAT YOU GOT, I'LL FRY IT UP...

STIR FRY FOR MY GUY...

BUUUT YOU'LL HAVE TO WAIT ABOUT A WEEK...

...'CAUSE OUR BURNER IS A LITTLE *WEAK!*

sh
ss
s

MORNIN', DAD!

10

11

GOOD MORNING, DEAR.

WHAT'S THAT SONG...?

IT'S CALLED "TAKE A WOK WITH ME."

WANNA HEAR THE SEQUEL? IT'S CALLED "KEEP A LID ON IT"...!

PEHO

OH, YOU MADE IT UP.

chik

BREAKFAST WILL BE READY IN A MINUTE.

JUST LEMME GET THE RICE.

SURE.

ITADAKIMASU.*

ITADAKIMASU!

*: Traditional Japanese "grace" before a meal

HMM... YOU KNOW, YOUR COOKING IS TASTING MORE AND MORE LIKE YOUR GRANDMA'S.

YEAH! SHE TAUGHT ME ALL SORTS OF STUFF.

AND BESIDES, I *LIKE* HOW GRANDMA'S FOOD TASTES.

BY THE WAY... I HEARD YOU NEARLY DROWNED.

AAAGH!

THAT DARN MISTER SUZUKI!! I *TOLD* HIM NOT TO--

IT WASN'T HIM.

I GOT A CALL FROM GRANDMA.

IN THE FUTURE, TRY NOT TO BE SO RECKLESS, OKAY?

YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN QUITE A DAREDEVIL, BUT... PLEASE?

WELL, WHAT DO YOU EXPECT? I *AM* THE DAUGHTER OF A *HOT-SHOT* PILOT!

THAT'S NOT THE WAY IT WORKS, SHIINA.

"BEING A GOOD PILOT DOESN'T MEAN BEING A DAREDEVIL, NOT AT ALL.

"IT'S JUST THAT THEIR HIGH LEVEL OF TRAINING, COUPLED WITH CONSTANT PRACTICE, ENABLES THEM TO TAKE THINGS TO THE EDGE OF THE ENVELOPE."

SO EVEN WHEN IT *LOOKS* DANGER-OUS...

...IT DOESN'T MEAN THEY'RE BEING RECKLESS.

YOU SEE...?

"A GOOD PILOT IS ONE WHO HAS THE COURAGE AND JUDGMENT TO KNOW WHAT HE CAN AND CANNOT DO

". . TO WALK THE RAZOR'S EDGE BETWEEN ABILITY AND DISASTER

"OTHER-WISE . .

". . HE WON'T LIVE FOR LONG."

ANY-HOW . . .

DON'T GIVE YOUR POOR OLD DAD ANY EXTRA WORRIES, ALL RIGHT?

OKAY SUNNY

YOU STILL EXERCISING ALONG WITH THAT GUAM IN THE HACK?

YEP! I WAS UP AT SIX!

SURE WISH YOU WERE THAT EASY TO GET OUT OF BED ON SCHOOL MORNINGS.

BUMMER, HUH?

=munch= =munch=

IT WOULD HAVE BEEN OKAY TO SKIP IT, JUST FOR TODAY. I MEAN, I'M SURE YOU COULD USE THE SLEEP, AFTER THE POLICE KEPT YOU UP SO LATE LAST NIGHT AGAIN WITH *MORE* QUESTIONS.

NO PROB-LEM.

I *LIKE* TALKING TO PEOPLE. AND BESIDES, HE WAS A REALLY INTERESTING GUY.

HERE. TEA.

HEH... EVEN THE *POLICE* CAN'T FAZE YOU, SHIINA.

JUST ANOTHER CHAT WITH A PAL, AS FAR AS YOU'RE CONCERNED!

WELL, *I'M* TIRED OF THEM.

LOOKS LIKE TODAY'S ANOTHER LONG DAY WITH THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT-ATION AND THE POLICE.

NOT TO MENTION THE MEDIA.

YOU'RE *STILL* HAVING TROUBLE...?

=munch=

WELL, YES, OF COURSE! WE STILL HAVE TWO PEOPLE *MISSING*, YOU KNOW.

=sigh=

BUT, DAD...

...I DON'T GET IT.

I HEARD THEIR NAMES AND ADDRESSES WERE *FAKE*. SO WHY ARE--

SHIINA, *WHOEVER* THEY WERE, IT'S STILL A FACT THAT TWO PEOPLE WENT THROUGH THE BOARDING PROCESS TO GET ON ONE OF OUR AIRPLANES, AND THEN NEVER GOT OFF AGAIN. RED TAPE, YOU SEE?

*MM THANKS FOR BREAKFAST, DEAR*

AND OF COURSE KURA DIDN'T MAKE THINGS ANY BETTER ONCE HE GOT HIS MOUTH GOING...

*THERE WAS THIS MONSTER AND A NAKED GIRL AND..*

HA-HA!

BESIDES... FLYING SQUIDS OR WHAT-EVER... AND ALL THAT...

...WELL, THE ACCIDENT INVESTI-GATORS JUST AREN'T BUYING IT NO SURPRISE.

HOW ABOUT *YOU*, DAD...?

WELL, SINCE YOU AND SUZUKI SAY SO...

...I BELIEVE IT.

YOU SAID YOU DIDN'T SEE THE OTHER ONE, RIGHT?

UMM... er... YOU MEAN THE *BIG* ONE?

NO. NO, I DIDN'T.

AFTER I WENT BACK TO CHECK OUT THE HOLE IN THE CARGO BAY...

...I HID IN THE TOILET. SO I DIDN'T SEE ANY-THING ELSE.

REALLY.

WELL, OKAY.

DONE!

*GOOD COOKIN', GIRL!*

MR. SUZUKI SHOULD BE HERE SOON.

THE PILOT...?

YES. WE'RE TAKING HIS CAR TODAY.

OUR PLANE MADE AN EMERGENCY LANDING AT ATSUGI, SO IT'S ALL THE WAY OUT THERE AGAIN TODAY.

THEN CAN I BORROW YOUR NEW BIKE?! IT'S SO COOL! ♥

SURE. WHERE YOU OFF TO TODAY?

THE YOUTH CENTER!

HMM? I THOUGHT YOUR CLASS WAS TOMORROW.

SATURDAY, RIGHT?

YEAH, THERE'S MY USUAL WEEK-END COURSE TOMORROW, TOO, BUT TODAY'S A SPECIAL SUMMER VACATION SESSION.

OH. OKAY.

HERE'S YOUR LUNCH, DAD.

THANKS, DEAR. WELL, I'LL BE OFF NOW.

DRIVE SAFE!!

VRMBBB

LUNCH MADE BY YOUR DARLING DAUGHTER, HUH?

MUST BE NICE...MINE MOVED OUT YEARS AGO, AND MY WIFE HASN'T MADE ME LUNCH FOR A DECADE.

chik

WELL, YOU KNOW SHIINA... SHE'S JUST GOTTA BE *DOING SOME-THING* ALL THE TIME.

THAT SWEET KID'S ALWAYS BEEN A REAL "DADDY'S GIRL"... YOU LUCKY GUY!

COME ON, KAZ, GIVE ME A BREAK, OKAY?

DOESN'T LOOK LIKE IT'LL RAIN, DOES IT?

'KAY, HOSHIMARU! YOU READY...?

LET'S GO GO GO!

FWHOO

YOW!

HEY!

SMAK

OKAY!!

SET THROTTLE-- *FULL MILITARY THRUST!!*

AFTER-
BURNERS
ON!!

AEROBICS
3.00pm - 5.00p
Teacher Kaori

SWORD
& BATON

YOGA
Special Instructor
Ms. C.H. Thakkar

JAZZ DANCE

THAK
THAP

OKAY, WARM-UP'S OVER! PLACES, EVERYONE!

FIRST... *MEDITATE!* CENTER YOUR-SELF...

BOW!

NOW, WE'LL START WITH THE BASIC *KATA.*

FIRST, SWINGING STRIKES TO THE HEAD...

BEGIN!!

SHIINA...? COME WITH ME FOR A SEC.

WHAT'S UP, *SENSEI*?

WELL, A NEW GIRL DROPPED BY TO AUDIT THE CLASS, AND... UH...

WELL, UH... SHE'S SORT OF *STRANGE*.

I'M KINDA HAVING SOME TROUBLE TALKING WITH HER.

YOU'RE GOOD WITH PEOPLE... WHY DON'T YOU TAKE OVER AND GIVE HER THE SONG AND DANCE...?

DON'T TELL ME YOU MADE A BAD IMPRESSION *ALREADY*, *SENSEI*?

LOOK... JUST GIVE HER A DOSE OF THAT OLD SHIINA CHARM, AND GET HER TO SIGN UP.

ICE CREAM SUNDAE IF YOU PULL IT OFF-- DEAL?

DEAL!

UM... H-HELLO.
M... MY NAME IS AKIRA S-SAKURA.
HI! I'M SHIINA TAMAI, AKIRA!
LEMME SHOW YOU AROUND AND THEN WE CAN PRACTICE TOGETHER!

HEY... AKIRA'S A PRETTY RARE NAME.

I MEAN, FOR A *GIRL*.

WELL, I THINK IT'S A *GREAT* NAME! REALLY COOL.

I WISH *I* HAD A NAME LIKE THAT!

*I'M NOT TOO FOND OF "SHIINA," BUT..*

'KAY, YOU JUST GOTTA HIT THE OTHER GUY BEFORE HE HITS YOU.

REAL SIMPLE, HUH?

JUST WAVE YOUR SWORD AROUND LIKE A LOONY AND YOU'LL DO FINE!

*HEY!* THERE IS *SOME* TECHNIQUE TO THIS SPORT, YOU KNOW, SHIINA!

DON'T PULL MER LEG!

UH... UMM...

MISS...

MISS TAMA!...?

WHO'S *THAT?* CALL ME SHIINA!

YOU'RE OLDER THAN ME, RIGHT? JUNIOR HIGH?

Y-YES... EIGHTH G-GRADE.

UM... OKAY, THEN...

S... SH...

SHII... HE.

UH... I-I...

.....

WELL, I'M IN SIXTH GRADE!!

DIDJA THINK I WAS YOUNGER...?

OH...? OH, N-NO...

AW, I'M USED TO IT. JUST PRETEND LIKE I'M YOUR LITTLE SISTER OR SOMETHING!

OKAY, LET'S GIVE IT A TRY.

NOW, JUST HIT ME IF YOU SEE AN OPENING.

OH...!

B-BUT... UM...

D-DO I HAVE T-TO?

Самолет

H...H... *HIT YOU,* I M-MEAN.

M- *MUST* I...?

HUH?

WELL, I... YOU...

...??

HAHN?!

Самолет

ER, AKIRA...

...IN THIS SPORT, YOU *GOTTA* HIT YOUR OPPONENT IN ORDER TO WIN!

WH... WHAT IF Y-YOU... D-DON'T WANT...

...TO *WIN?*

CUH... CAN'T I JUST... DODGE...?

AND... P-PLAY T-TO A DRAW...?

FOR-EVER?

YES.

ALL YOUR LIFE?

YES.

THEN THE GAME WOULD NEVER END.

....
....

SMAK

HEAD!

UM...WHY DID YOU COME TO THIS CLASS?

I W-WANT TO BECOME... S-STRONG-ER.

YEAH, BUT THEN--

N-NO! I... I MEAN... NOT BY *HURTING* ANYONE, NOT BEING HURT BY ANYONE...

THAT KIND OF STRENGTH... I...I C-CAN'T...

YOU LOST ME, AKIRA.

W-WELL... WHEN SOMEONE HITS YOU... D-DON'T YOU FEEL M-MAD AT THE PERSON?

NOPE! NO WAY!

I... ONCE I TRIED...

...T-TO LEARN K-*KENDO*, BEFORE.

S-SOME KIDS... THEY HIT YOU R-*REALLY* HARD. IT *HURTS*, EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE W-WEARING ALL TH-THAT GEAR.

I...I USED TO WONDER... WH...WHY DOES THIS PERSON HIT ME S-SO *HARD?*

IT'S AS THOUGH TH-THEY... *ENJOY* MY P-PAIN.

I...I FEEL LIKE...IF... IF I DID THE SAME TO THEM...

...THEY SHOULD... H-*HATE* ME...

.....

HA, HA! NOW YOU'VE *REALLY* LOST ME, AKIRA!!

BUT, HEY-- ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW IS THAT OL' SHIINA HERE WOULDN'T HATE YOU FOR SOMETHING LIKE THAT, OKAY? SMACK AWAY AT ME ALL YOU LIKE!

ARE... ARE YOU S-*SURE*... SHIINA?

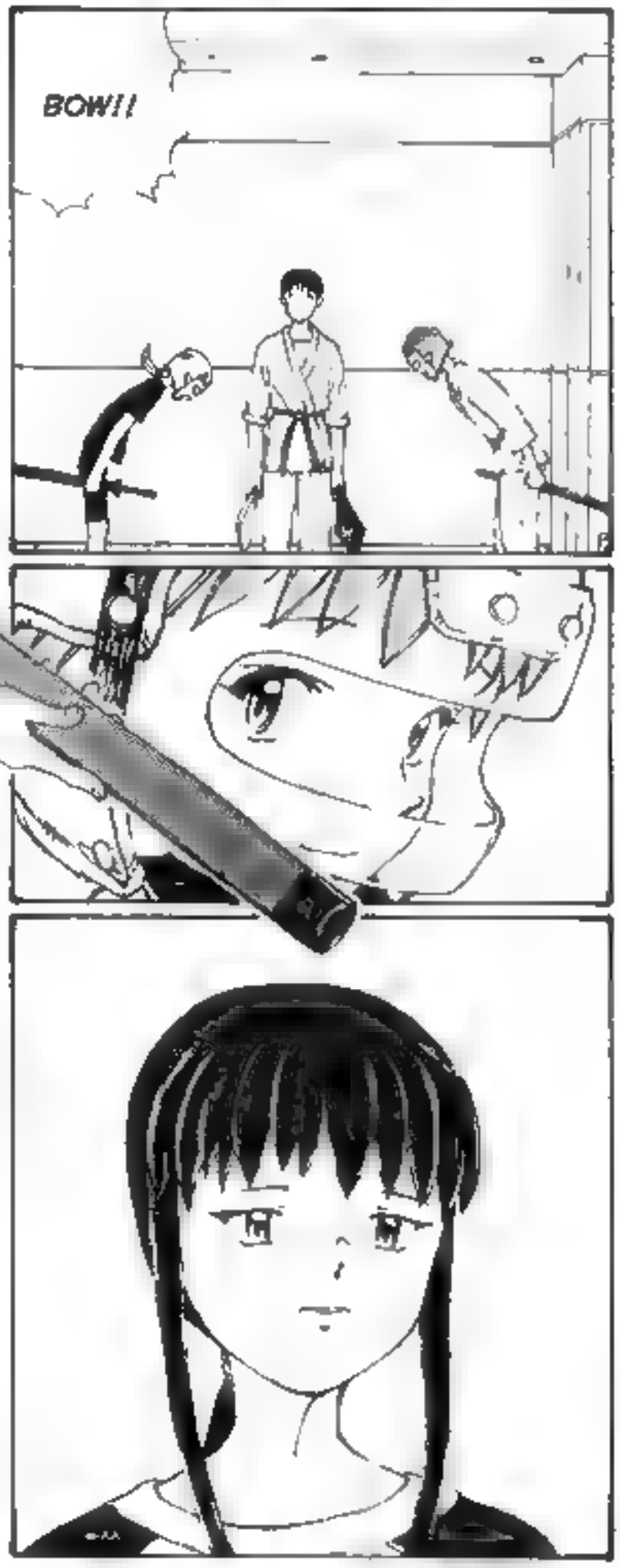
AND... IS IT R-REALLY *FUN*...?

IT'S A *BLAST*, GIRL!

SO...? WANNA TRY?

SHIINA...? GEAR UP! I WANT YOU AND TOSHIO TO HAVE A DEMO BOUT!

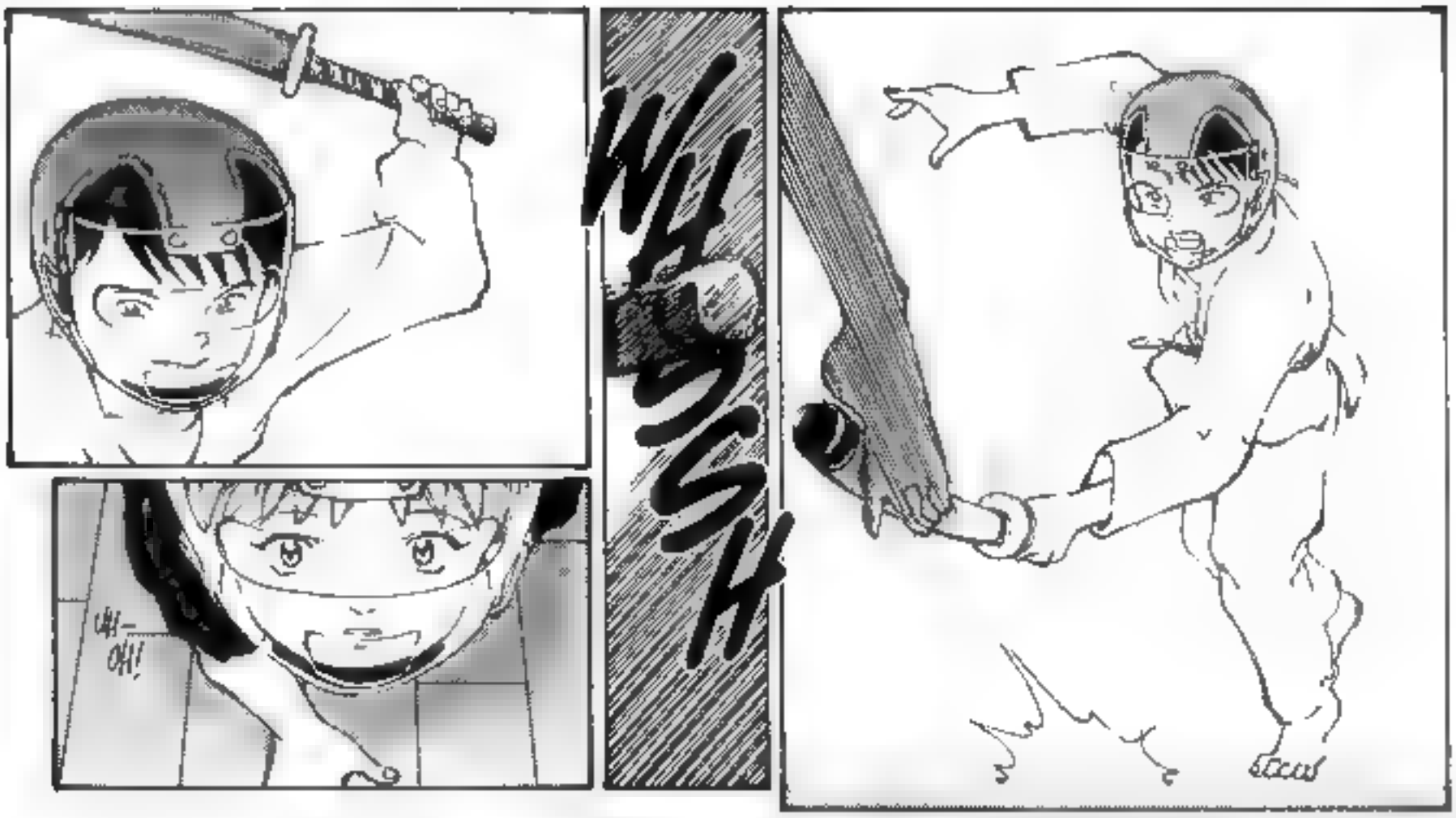
LOOK-- JUST SIT AND WATCH AND YOU'LL SEE, 'KAY?

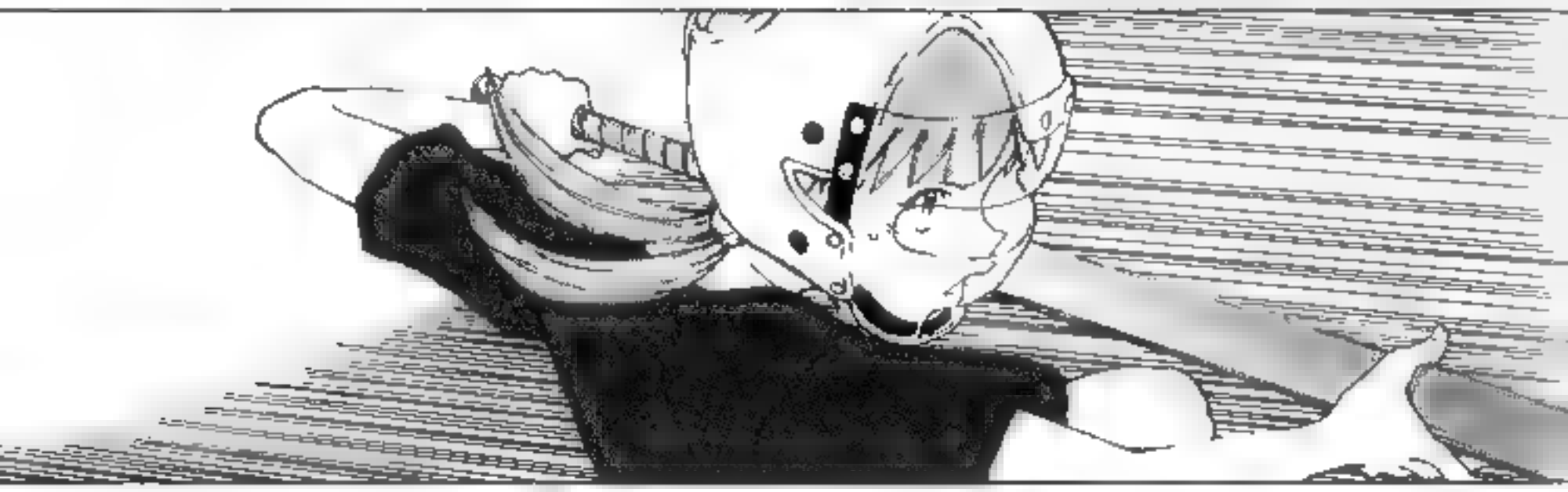

BOW!!

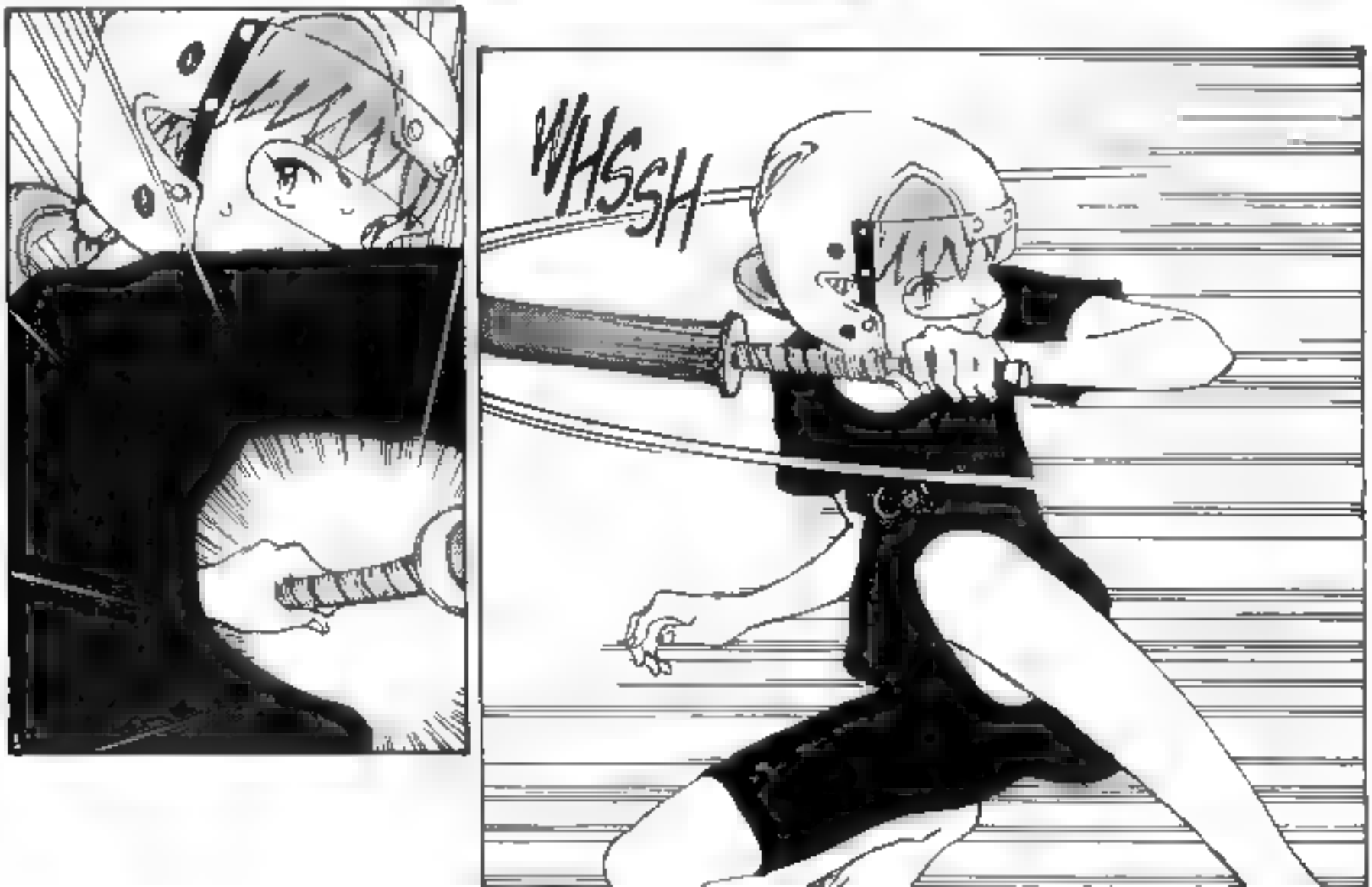
BEGIN!

FWHTT

qaps!


WHOOSH
AH—
OH!




WHSSH

THAP

VEG!

LEG STRIKE! MATCH TO TAMA!!

MAN, YOU ARE SOMETHIN' ELSE, SHIINA!

YOU'RE LIKE THAT GUY FROM "LONE WOLF AND CUB."

DON'T COMPARE ME TO SOME OLD GEEZER! SAY I'M LIKE *NAUSICAA* OR SOMETHING!

I *WOULD* IF YOU REMINDED ME OF *HER!*

OUCH.

THAP

UM... O-OKAY.

I'LL... TRY. I'LL GIVE IT A... T-TRY.

CLASS DISMISSED... SEE YOU TOMORROW!

*THANK YOU, SENSEI!*

WELL? WHATCHA THINK, AKIRA?

IT...

IT WAS *FUN.*

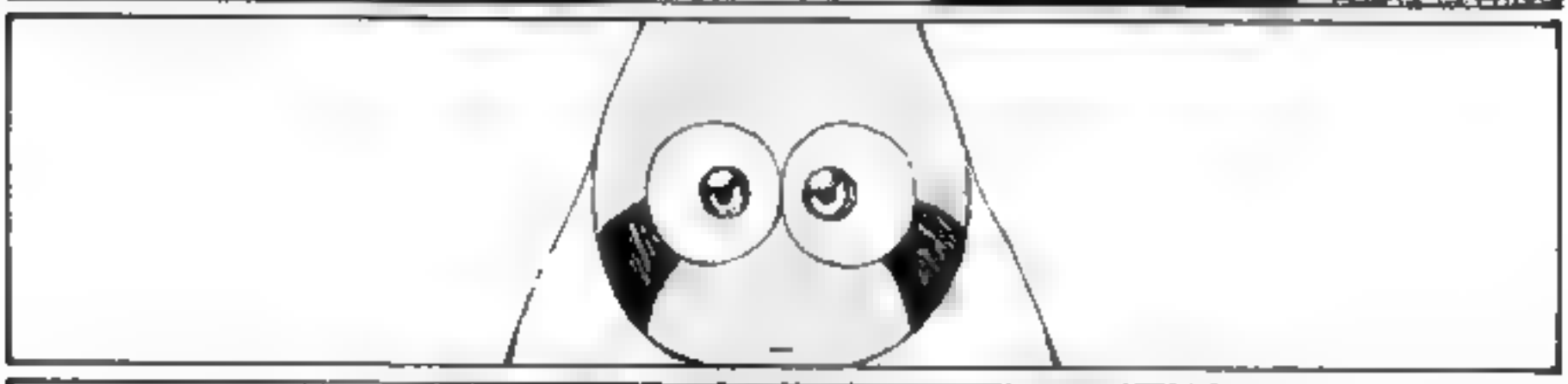
UM... TODAY I... I *KNEW* I WAS GOING TO HAVE A P-POSITIVE ENCOUNTER

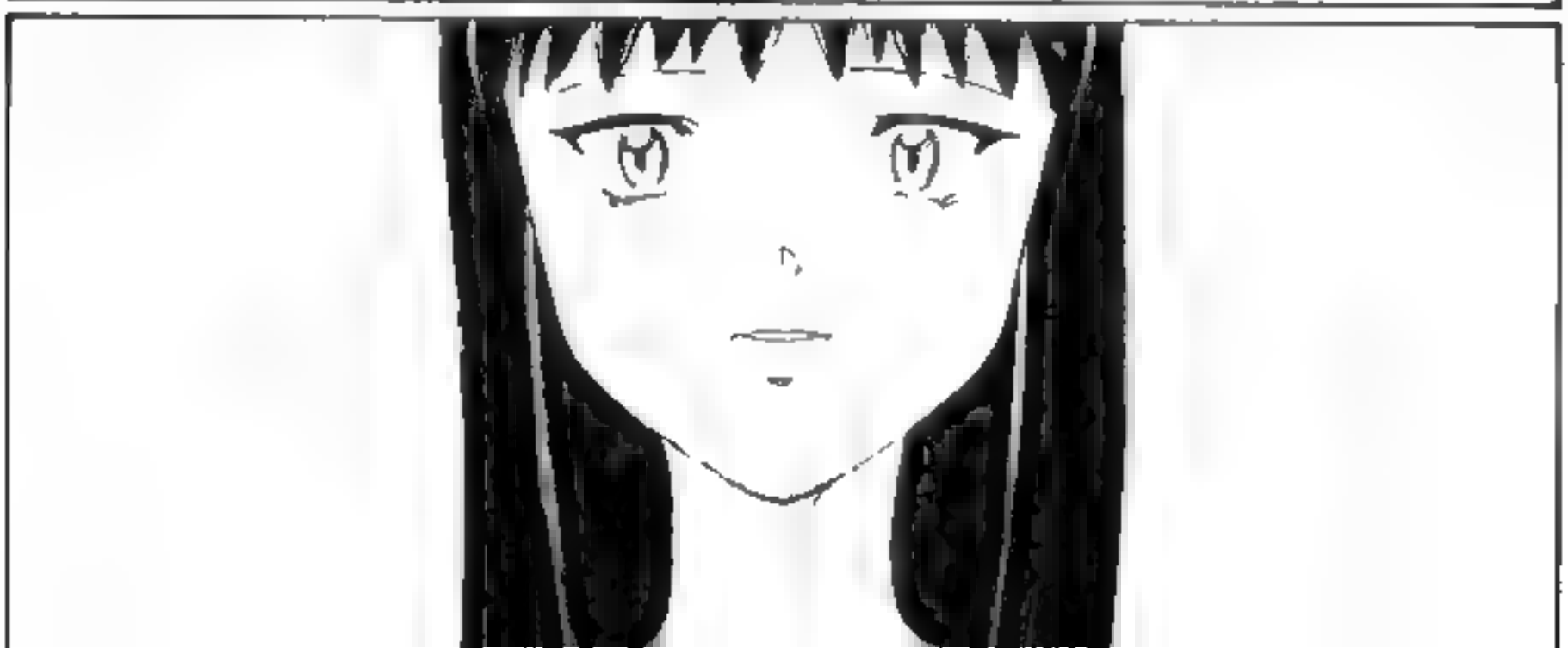
THE TAROT CARDS AND THE TROPICAL ZODIAC AND THE SIDEREAL ZODIAC *ALL* TOLD ME S-SO.

YOU GONNA COME NEXT TIME...?

Y-YES.

I THINK I'LL TRY TO--





HEY, AKIRA! WHERE DO YOU LIVE? AFTER YOU SIGN UP, WE COULD--

HUH...?

DID YOU SEE AKIRA?

THE NEW KID? YEAH-- SHE JUST TOOK OFF LIKE A BAT OUTTA HELL.

SENSEI!! DID AKIRA COME BY AND SIGN UP?

SORRY, SHIINA... "PRINCESS ICE CREAM SUNDAE" GOT AWAY.

HUH?!

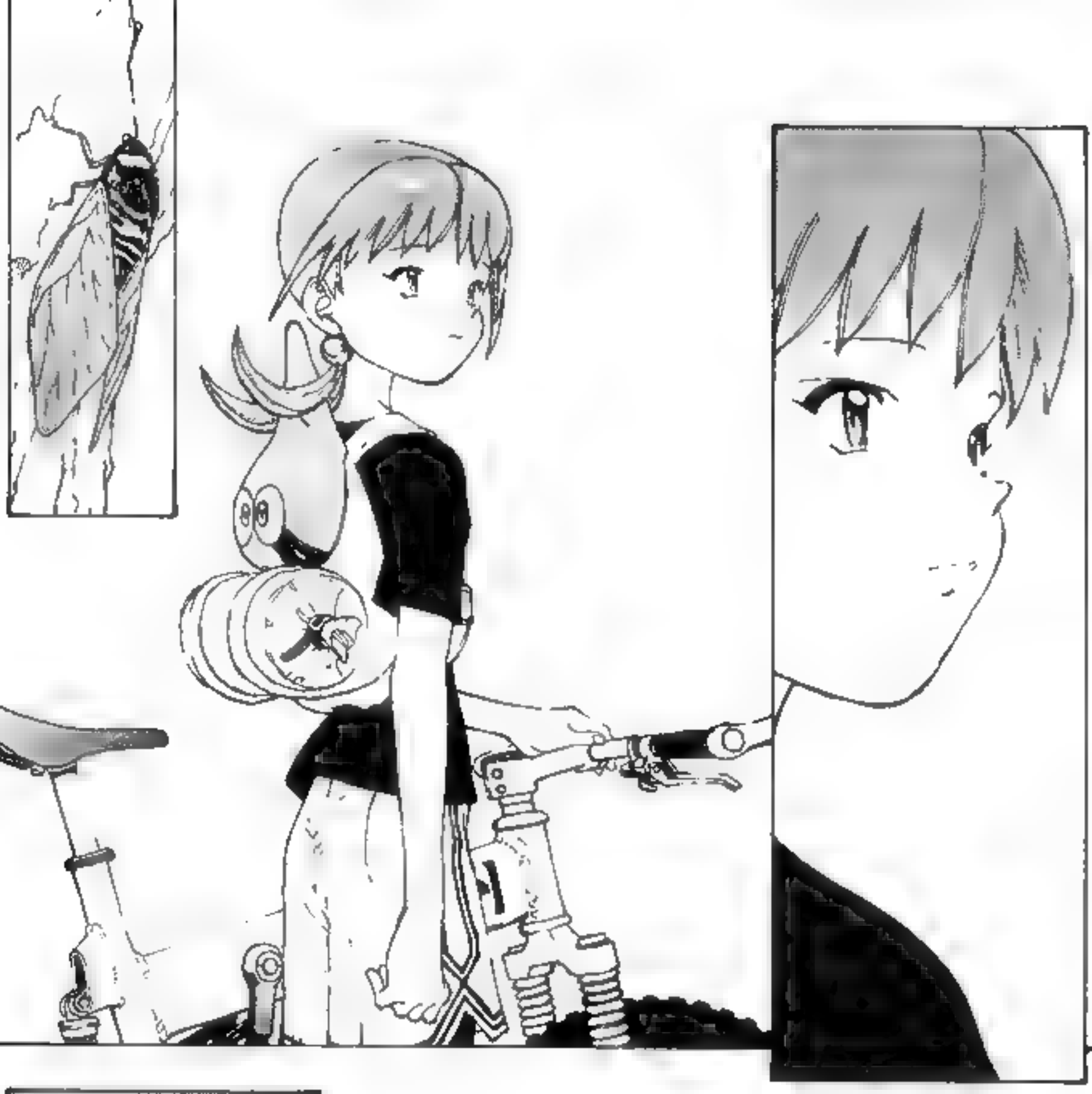
B-BUT SHE SAID SHE'D COME NEXT TIME..

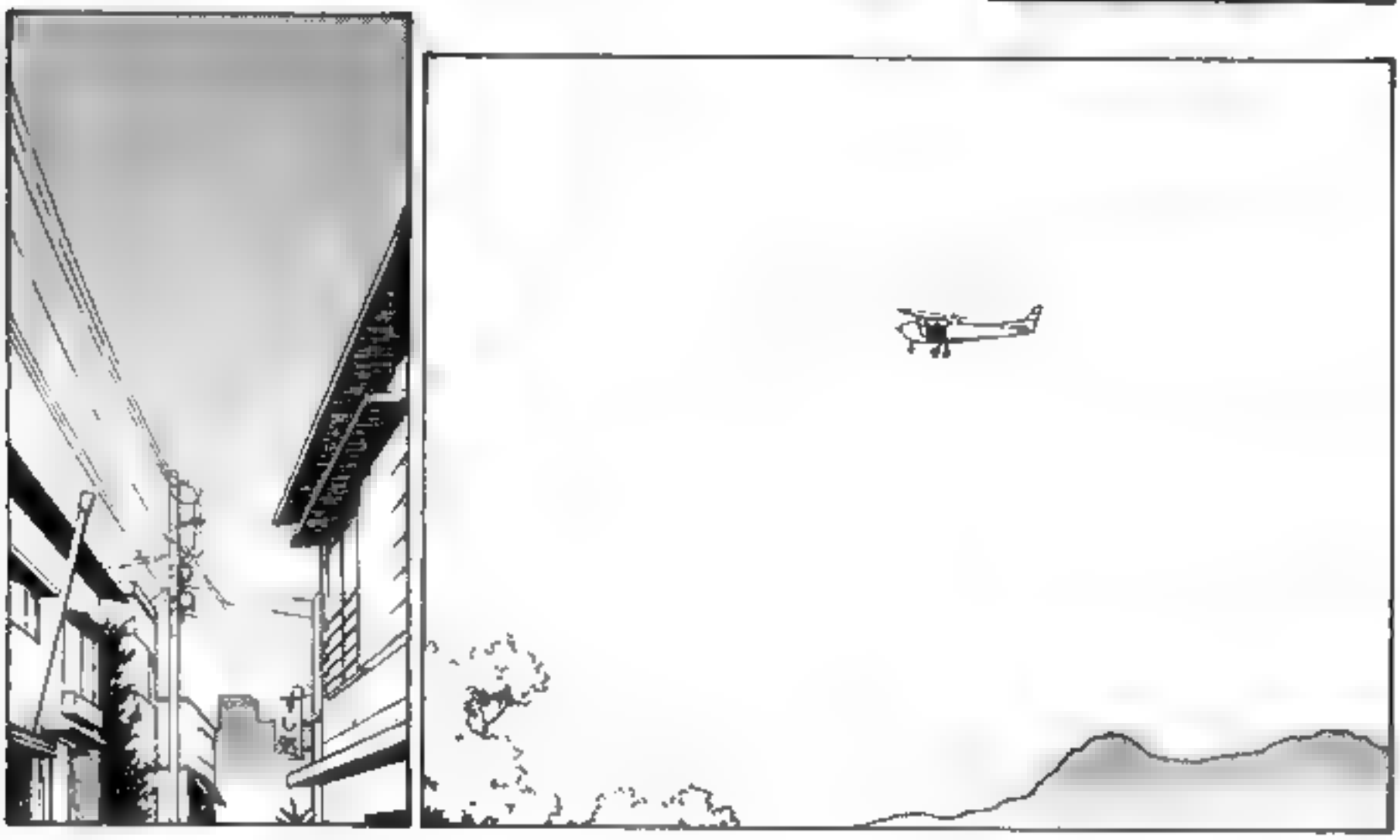
NO WAY...!

NOPE. "THANKS AND GOODBYE" AND SHE WAS GONE.

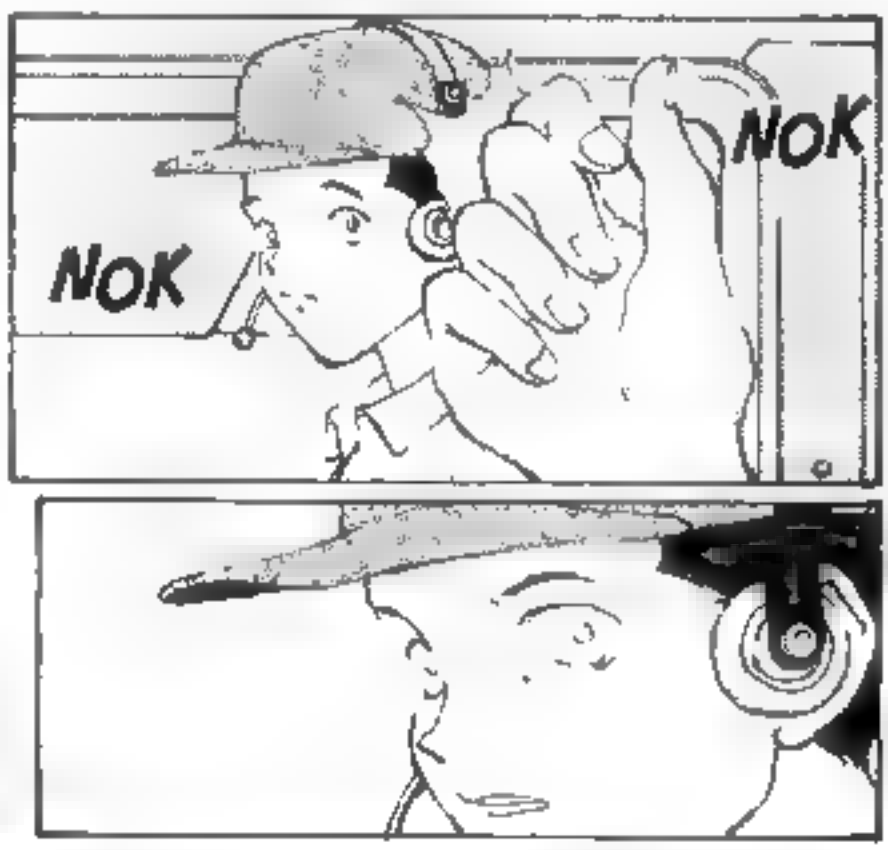
AH, WELL...

THAT IS SO WEIRD!





BRRRRRRR


NOK
NOK

WHA--?!

KCHAK

BRRRRR

YO.

HOW'S IT GOIN'?

HUH? HAH?

BTAM

BRRRRR

SORRY TO DROP IN LIKE THIS, BUT...

...I HAD A LITTLE QUESTION TO ASK YOU.

WHA--? B BUT... HUH?

YOU WORK FOR MOTOKI AIR SERVICE, RIGHT?

Y...YES, BUT--

OKAY, THEN...

mmmrnn

THIS GIRL HERE.

YOU KNOW HER?

TH... THAT'S...

...MR. TAMAI'S D-DAUGHTER.

H-HER NAME... IS... UH...

SHIINA.

SHIINA TAMAI.

COOL... THANKS.

WHSSH

H-HEY?!

KCHOK

AAAAGH!

SKRASHOOM

お食事 つむ

RESTAURANT

kchak

SLAM

DAMN IT, AKIRA! WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?!

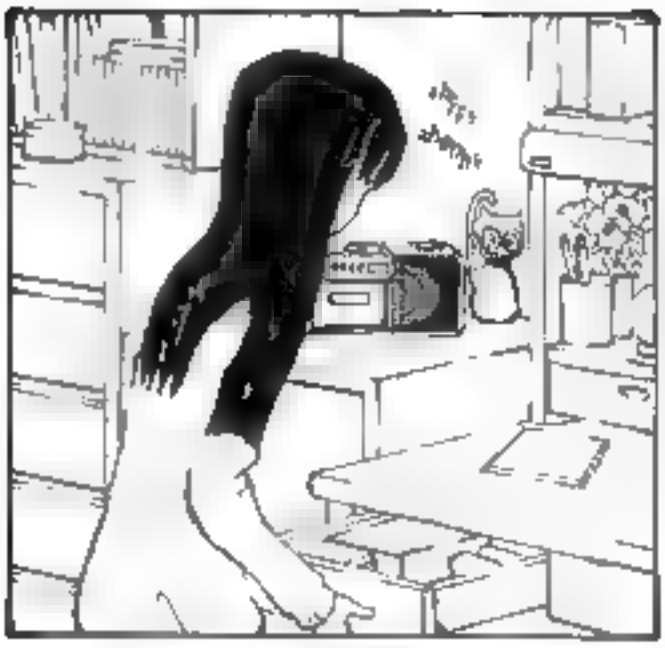
GET BACK DOWN HERE AND HELP OUT!

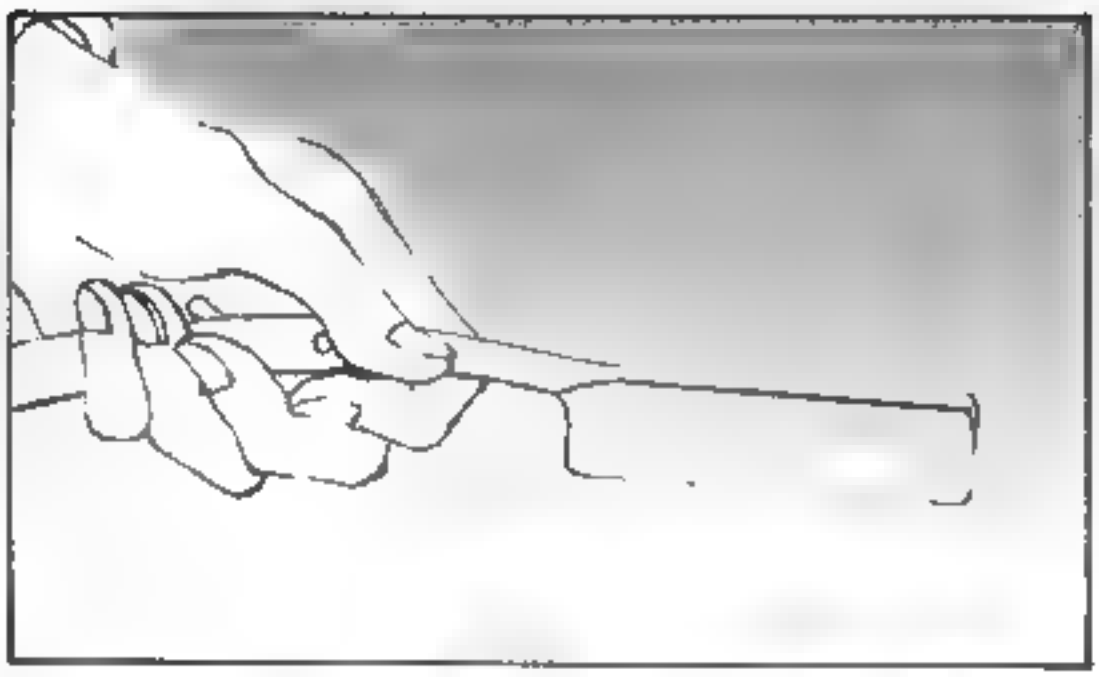
HMPH! THAT LITTLE BRAT!

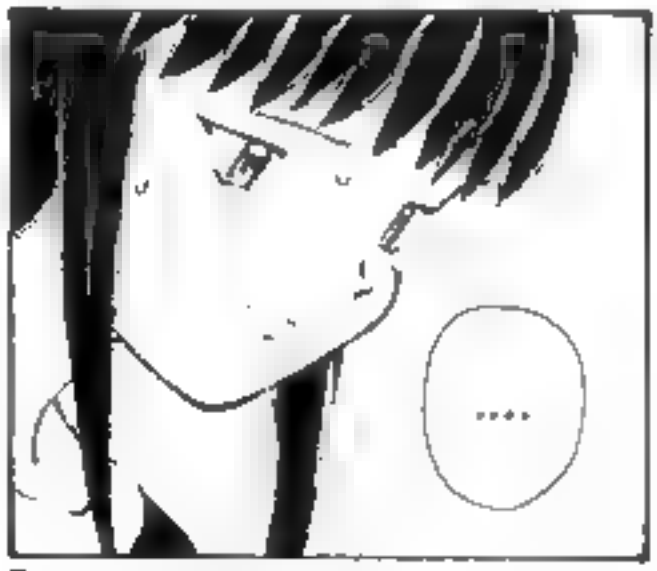
DOESN'T EVEN BOTHER TO ANSWER ME...

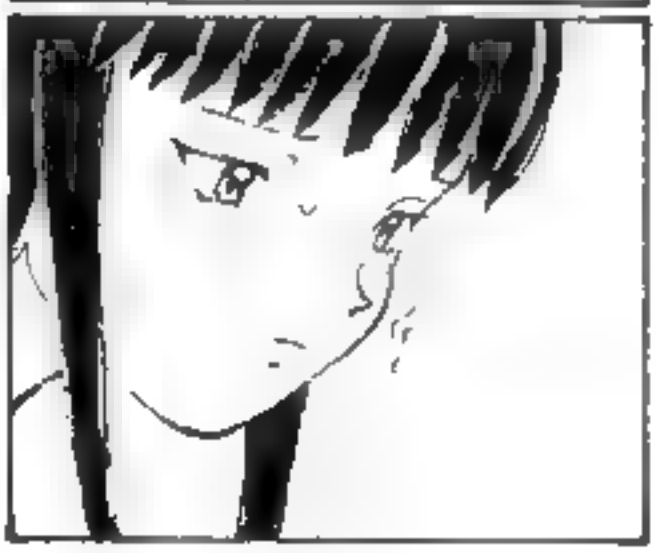
ahahhh

ahahhh

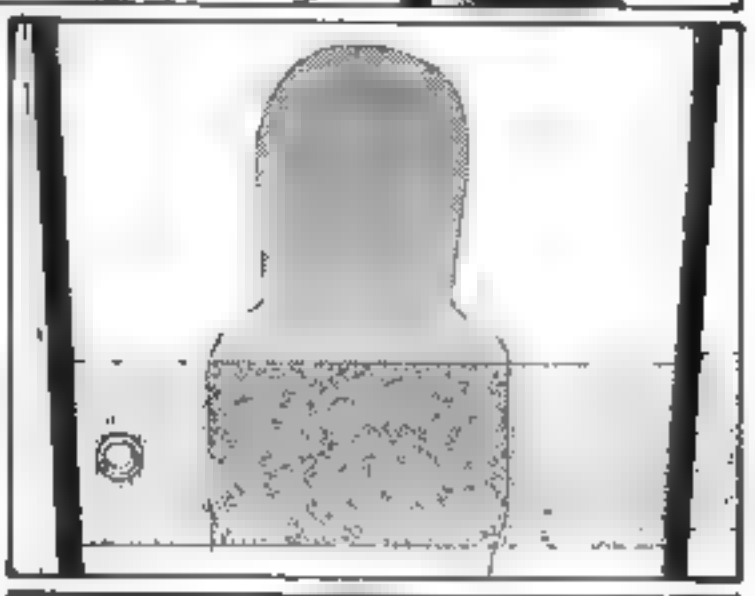


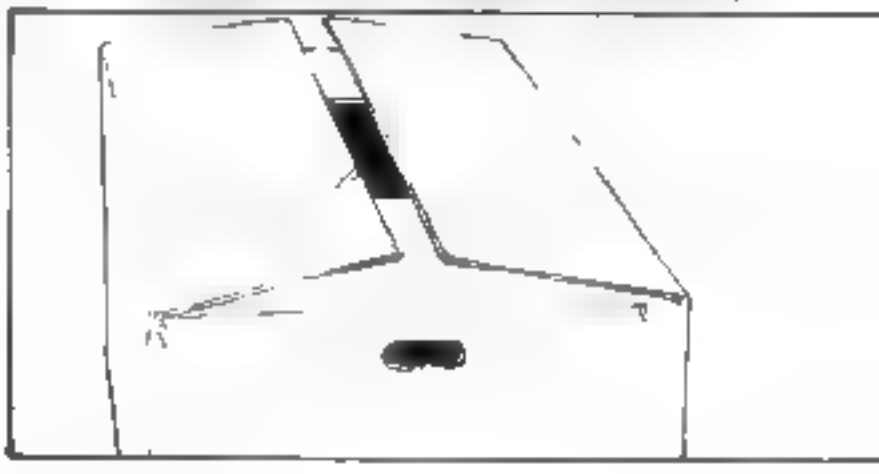


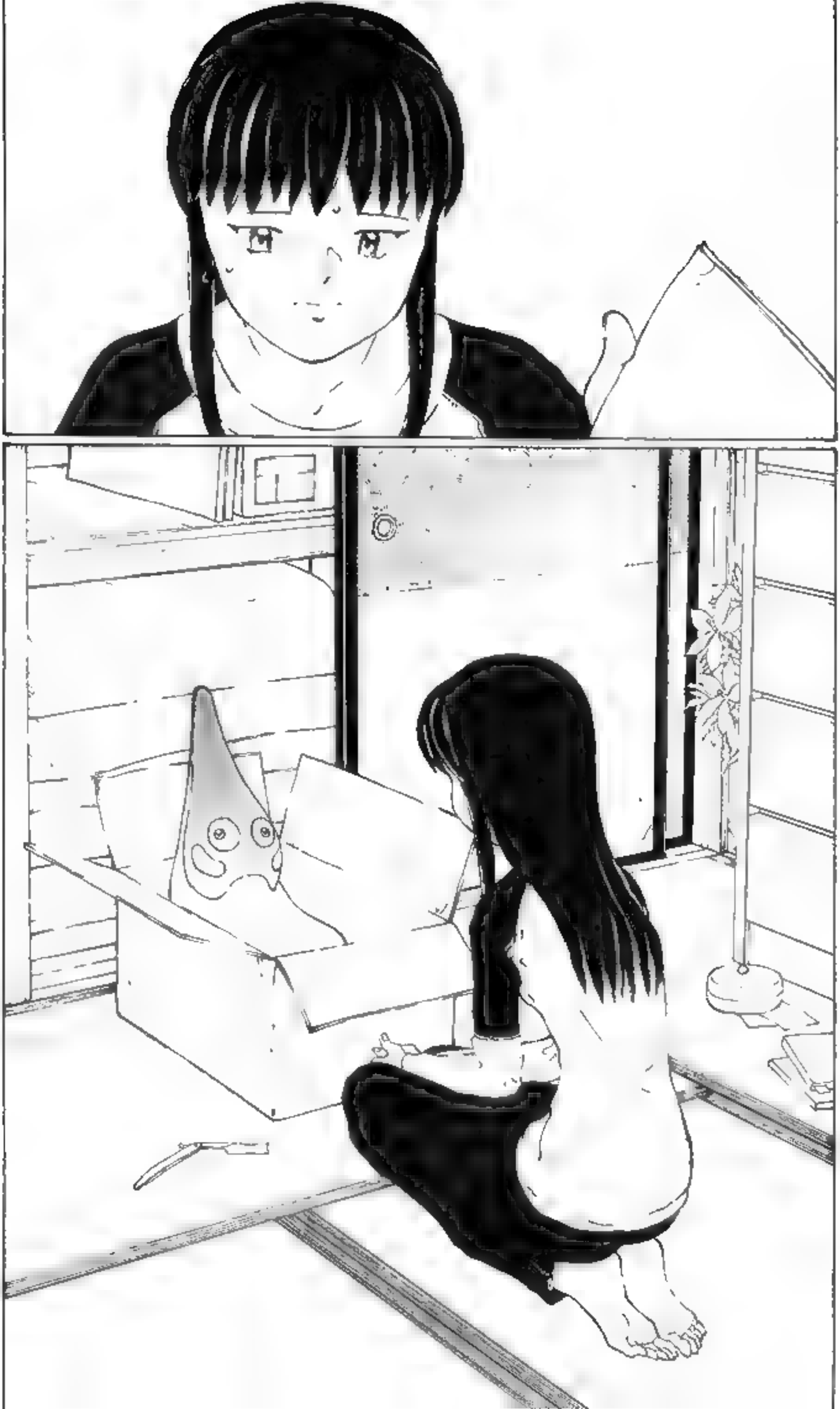




=haaahh=



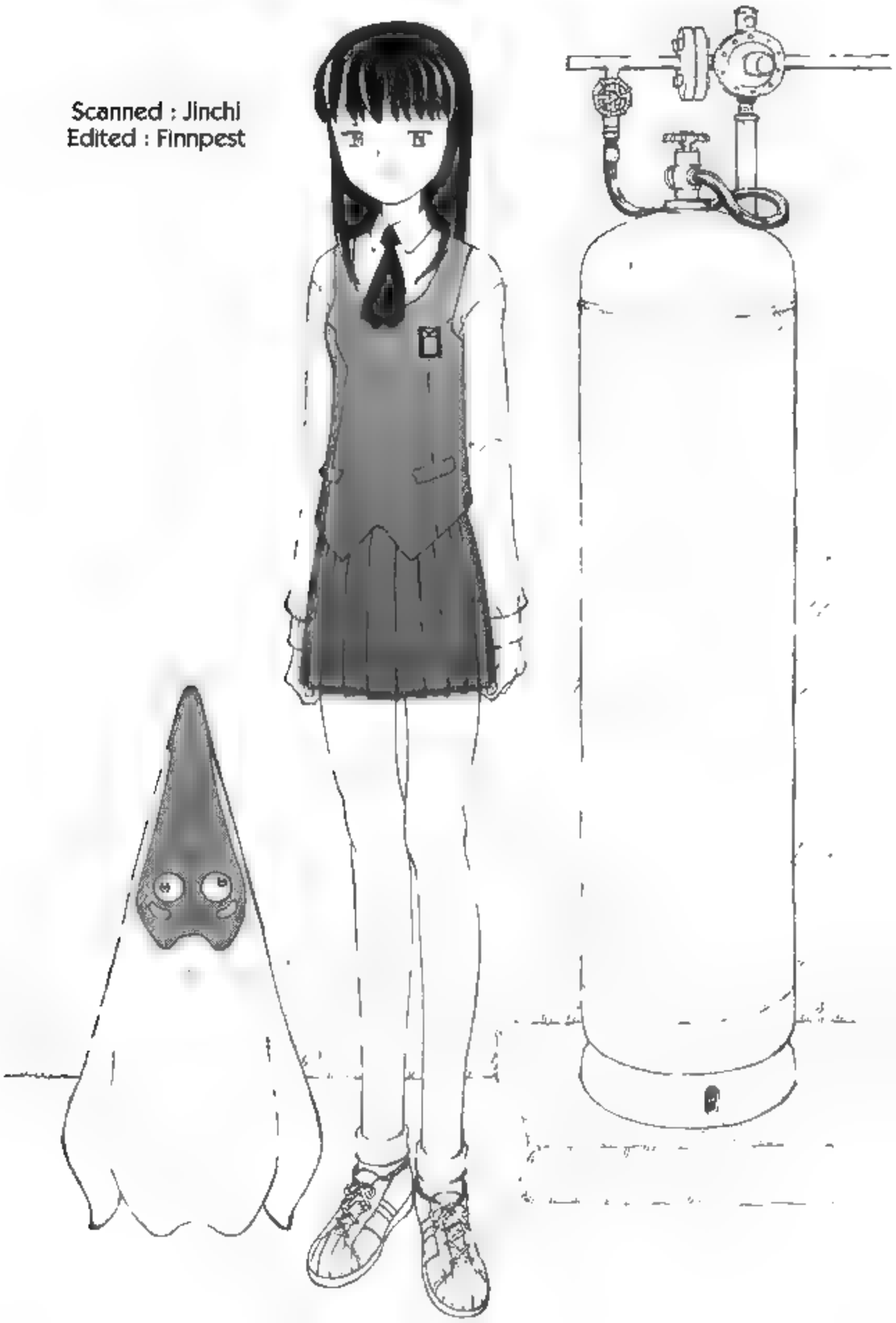




# BLINDED BY THE LIGHT

#MAnga-Sketchbook@WONDERnet

Scanned : Jinchi
Edited : Finnpest



KSSHHH

WELL... AKIRA DIDN'T SHOW UP TODAY, AFTER ALL.

GUESS I DID SOMETHING TO MAKE HER THINK I "HATE HER" OR SOMETHING.

WEIRD KID.

FLOP

WHOOPS! SORRY!

BKOOM

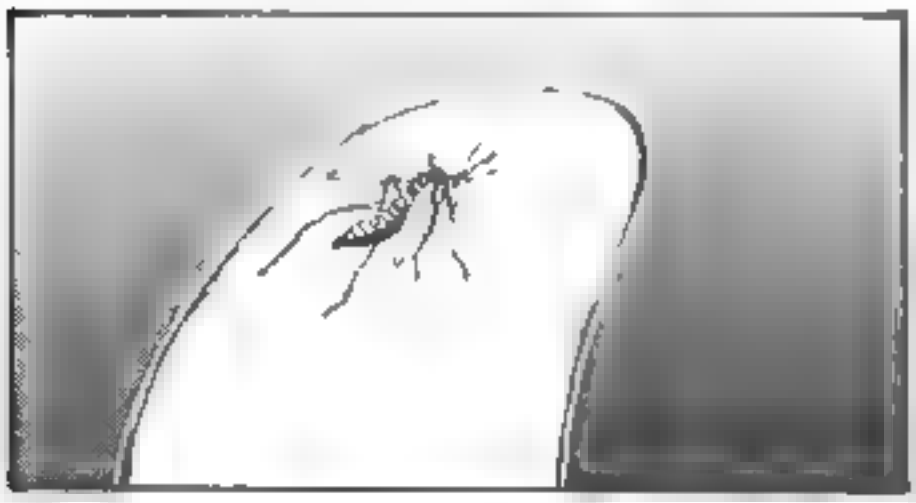
BRMBB

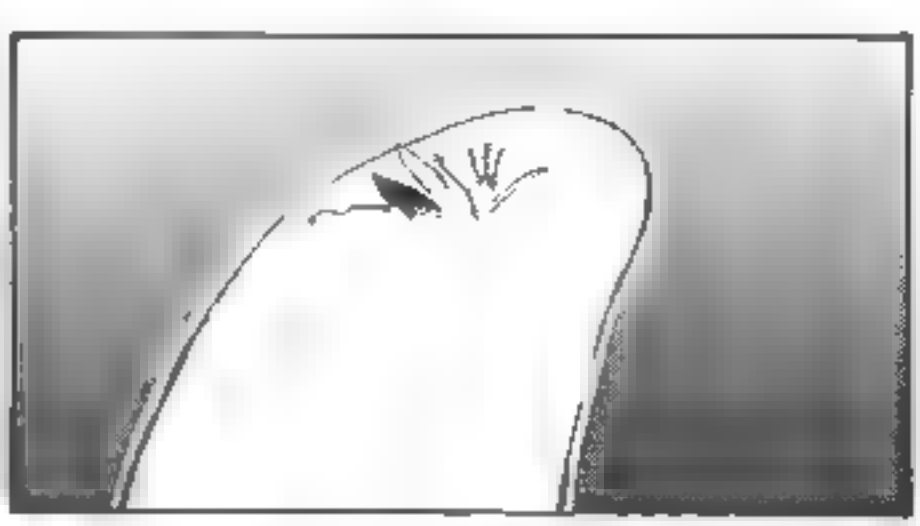
KSSSHHH

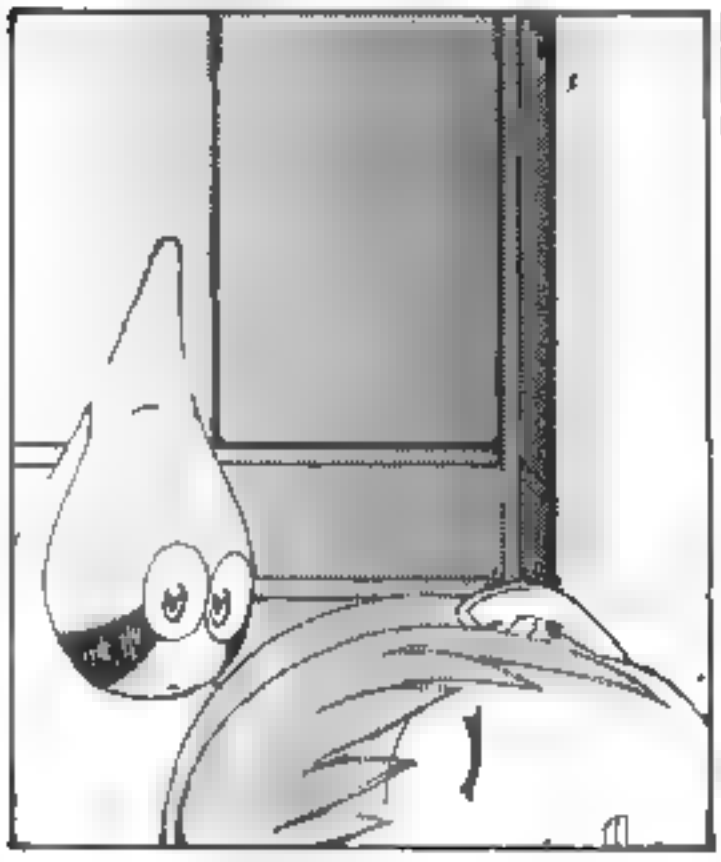
ZZZZZ

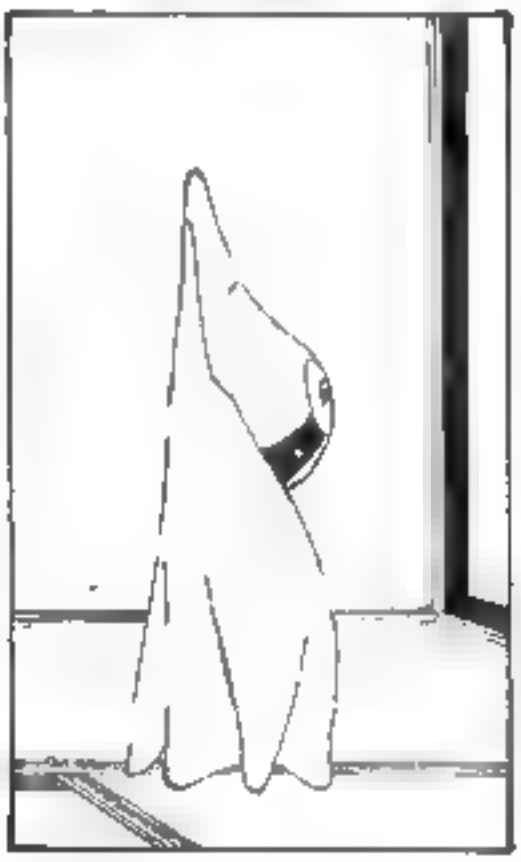
BZZZZ

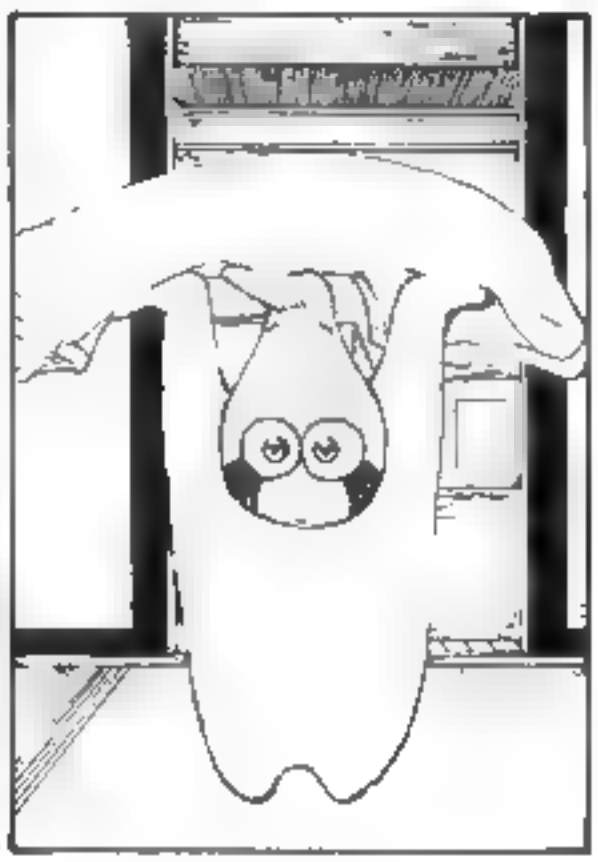
FWHIT











BRIINNGG

mmph...?

THUD

WHAM

BRIINNGG

HI!

I MEAN, HELLO! TAMAI RESID-ENCE!

OH, HI, DAD!

IT'S JUST YOU.

UH-HUH. SURE.

SURE, NO PROB.

WHAT ABOUT YOU? DID YOU HAVE SOMETHING DECENT FOR LUNCH?

WHAT TIME WILL YOU BE...

HUH? 'KAY... I SEE.

NAW, THAT'S OKAY. CAN'T BE HELPED, RIGHT?

THEN I WON'T WAIT UP.

OKAY. BYE-BYE.

KCHAK

KRAK

BRAKOOM

WHAT THE ...?

WHAT *ARE* YOU DOING?

FWIP

FWOP

HOW'D YOU GET ALL TANGLED UP IN THE BLANKET ...?

OH, WAIT.

I GET IT.

YOU WERE TRYING TO PUT IT BACK.

GEEZ. LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE GONNA KEEP DAD...

...ALL NIGHT AT THE OFFICE AGAIN.

DO YOU THINK HE'S REALLY IN *THAT* MUCH TROUBLE?

WOULD IT HELP IF I TOLD THEM *EVERY-THING?*

*YOU'D* BE TOUGH TO EXPLAIN.

AND BESIDES, THE TRUTH IS I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THOSE TWO GUYS IN THE PLANE... OR THAT GIRL.

"THAT *GIRL*... SHE CAN'T BE *HUMAN*... CAN SHE?

"A *GODDESS*... MAYBE?"

HEH... SINCE MEETING *YOU*, I'M READY TO BELIEVE *ANYTHING!*

grggll

GUESS I BETTER GET SOMETHING TO EAT, HUH?

AT LEAST THE RAIN'S STOPPED.

I'LL BRING YOURS BACK WITH ME, 'KAY?

"THERE'S THIS PLACE I LIKE CALLED KAKOH-YA...

"WISH I COULD STEAL THEIR RECIPES."

本日臨時休業

CLOSED TODAY -- KAKOHYA

grggll

OH, MAN... I DON'T THINK I CAN MAKE IT ANY FARTHER...

=gasp=

=moan=

ARGH! I'M STARVING!!!

I JUST WANT A PLACE TO SIT DOWN AND *EAT!* GEEZ...I NEVER NOTICED BEFORE, BUT...

...SEEMS LIKE ALL THESE PLACES ARE MOSTLY *BARS!*

I DON'T MIND GROWN-UPS, BUT I CAN'T STAND DRUNKS...

HMM... NEVER BEEN DOWN THIS WAY BEFORE...

HEYY ...!

お食事処

RESTAURANT

SAVED! *SAVED!* FROM THE VERY *JAWS* OF *STARVATION!*

SHAKK

C'MON IN!

ER... HI. MIND IF I JOIN Y'ALL ...?

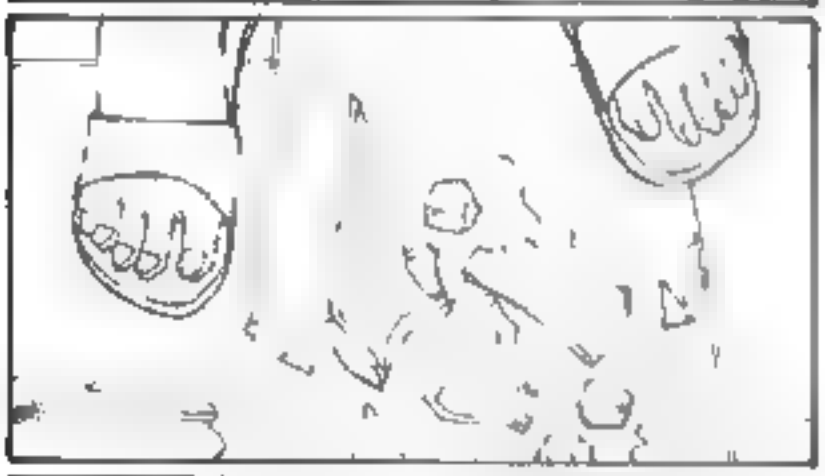
JUST ONE, MISS?

YUP.

HEY! MENU AND WATER OVER HERE!

PRETTY PACKED, HUH? AND THEY LOOK LIKE REGULARS, TOO!
SAY... THIS PLACE MAY BE A REAL FIND!

SKRASSH



DAMN IT, AKIRA! YOU--

*AKIRA...?* IS THAT *YOU?!*

HUH? YOU KNOW MY DAUGHTER ...?

FOR GOD'S SAKE, AKIRA! JUST CLEAN UP THAT MESS!

S-SORRY, MOTHER.

I'LL HELP, AKIRA...

N... NO!!

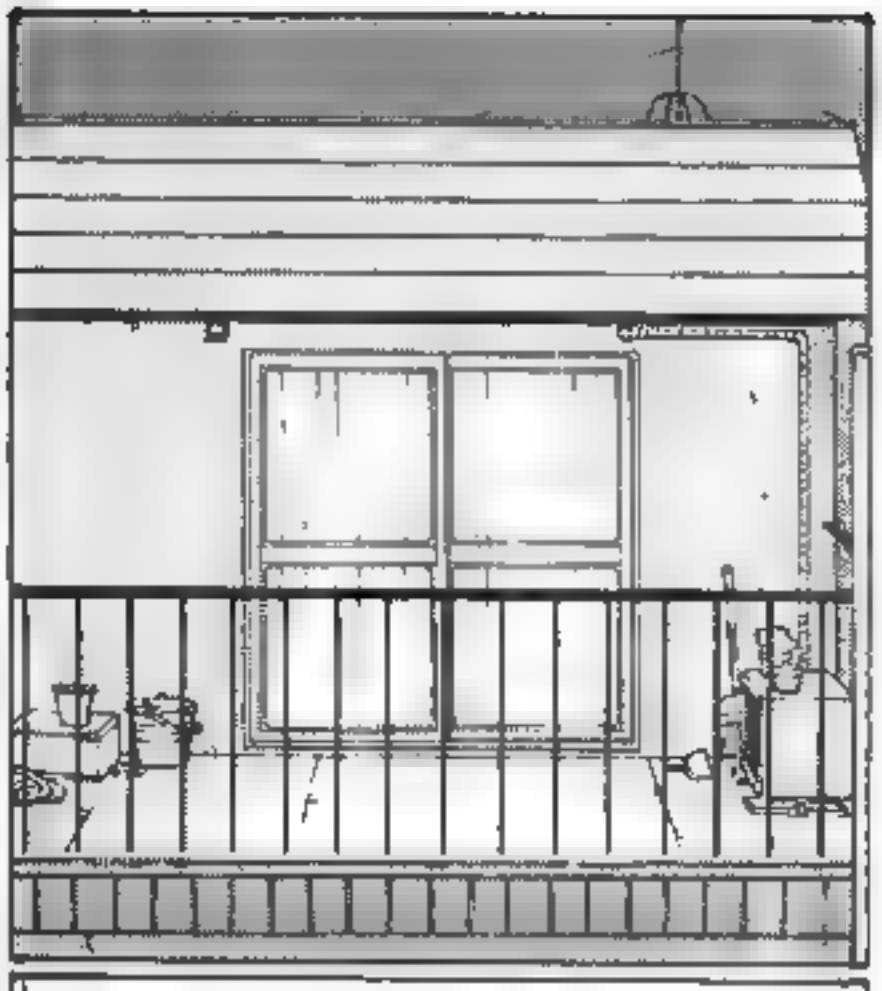
NO. THANK Y-YOU.

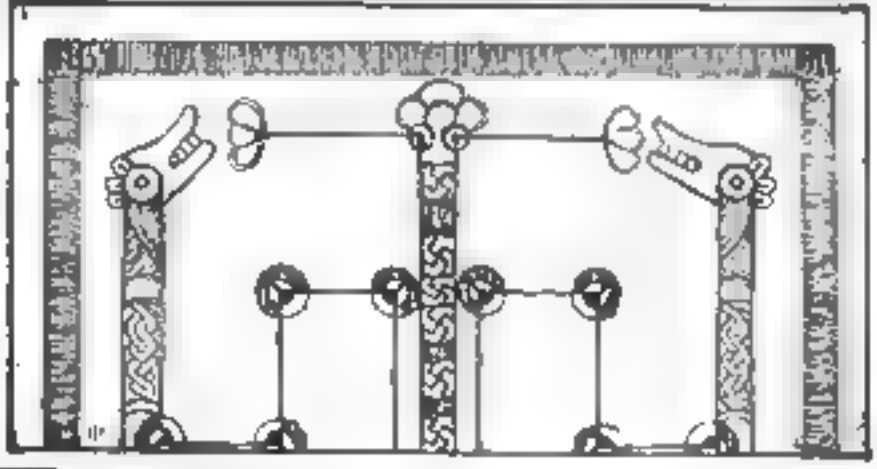
YOU SURE ...?

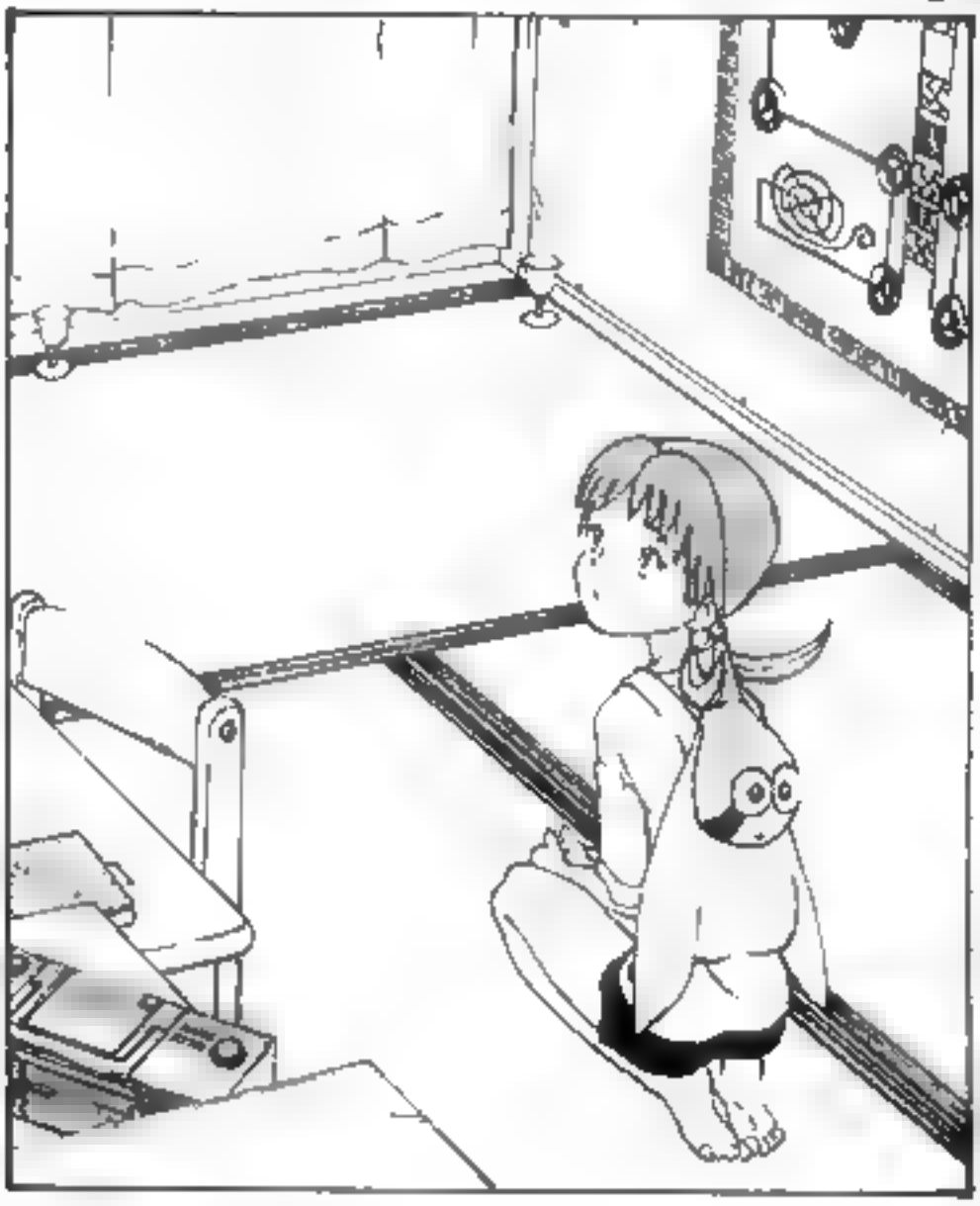
LOOK... THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT AFTER I EAT, 'KAY?

TH NK I CAN FINISH THE "BELLY-BUSTER SPECIAL" ..?

YOU CAN TRY!







MMM... SOMETHING SMELLS NICE IN HERE!

IT... IT'S A *POTPOURRI.*

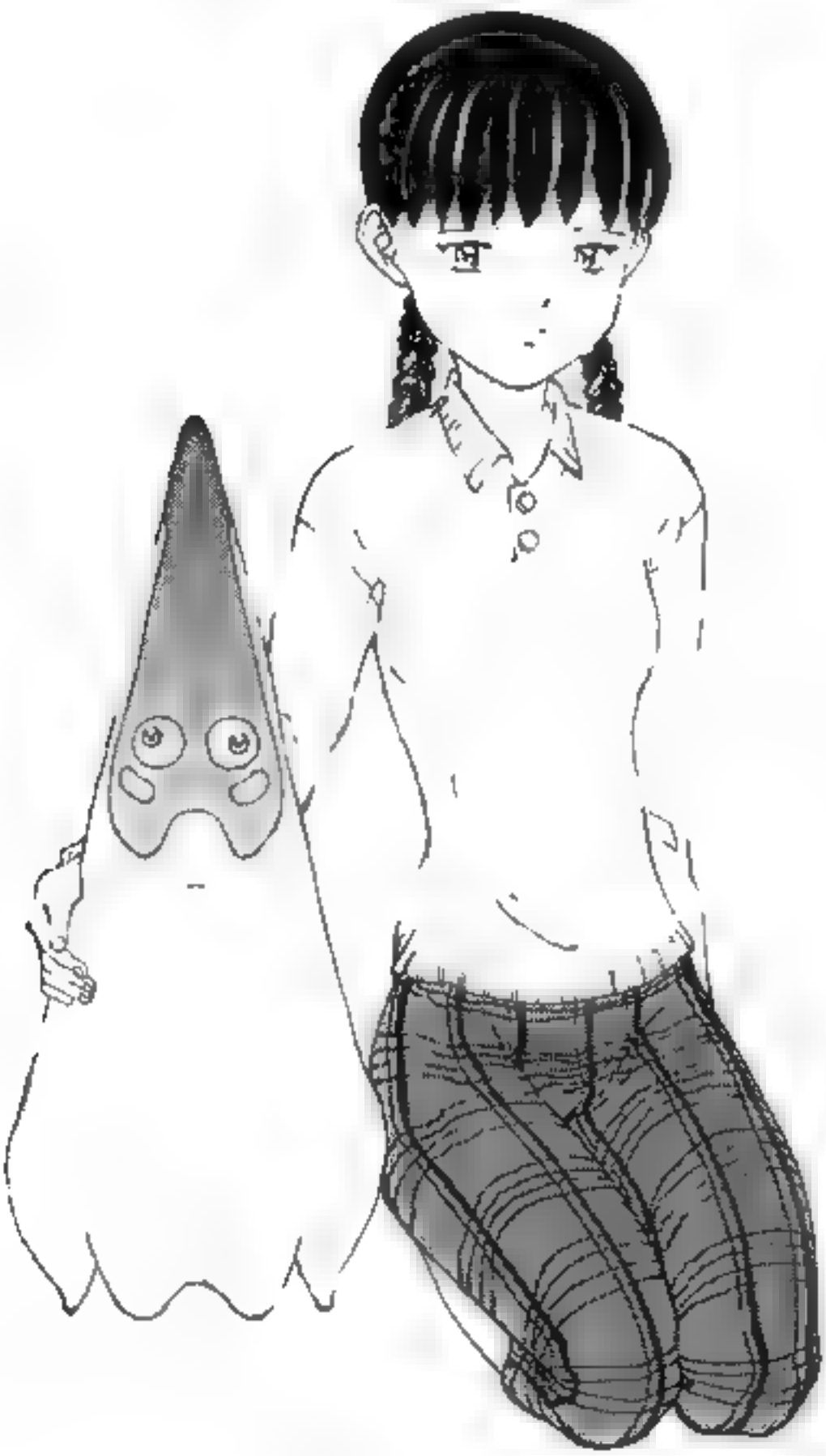
UM... AKIRA... DID I DO SOMETHING WRONG? AT THE CLUB?

NO. I...I JUST DON'T WANT TO HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH... WITH...

WITH *WHAT?*

THAT *THING...* ON YOUR B-BACK.

HUH? C'MON!
IT'S JUST A BACK-PACK, AKIRA!
SHAKK

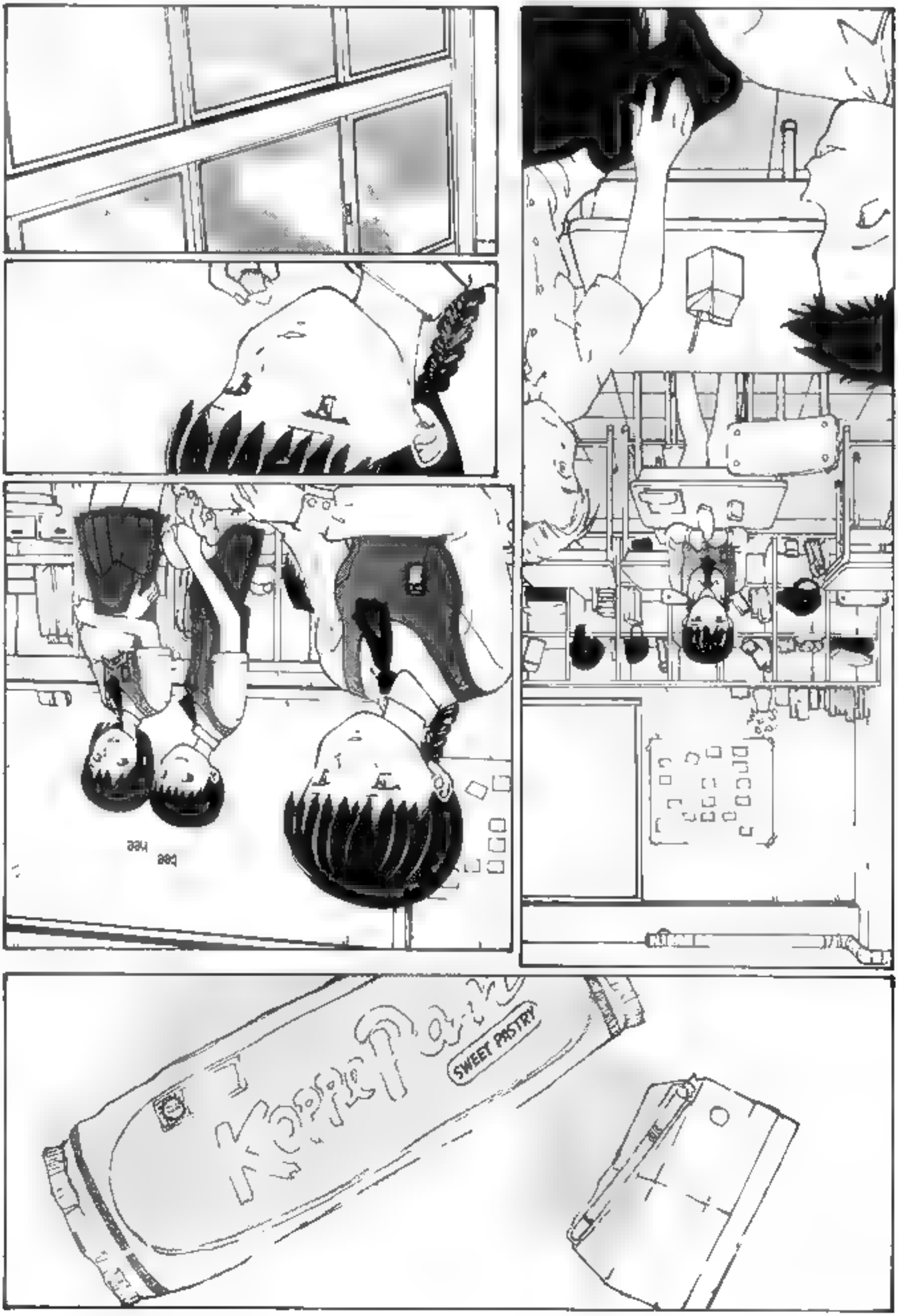


AH?!
AH!!
AAH!

ABOUT A M-MONTH AGO . WH.E I W-WAS CHANNELING...

??
"CHANNE.ING"
...?

お食事む


SWEET PASTRY

AKIRA.

AKIRA.

?!

WHO... IS IT?

FINALLY... MY "VOICE"...

...HAS REACHED YOU.

WH-WHO ARE YOU...?

I FIND NO EXACT WORD TO DESCRIBE ME IN YOUR MIND'S LEXICON, BUT PERHAPS...

DEMON...
FAIRY...
MONSTER...
DRAGON...

...NAMES HUMANS HAVE GIVEN TO DESCRIBE THAT WHICH THEY CANNOT ENCOMPASS WITHIN THEIR PHYSICAL SCIENCE.

VESSEL...
SHELL...
THE INCOMPLETE.

CORPSE...
THE EMPTY BODY...
THAT WHICH IS ENDED.

AND FURTHER...

I...

I AM YOU.

WHA--?

!!

AAH?!

EEK!

AAAHH!!

I'M F-FALLING!!

I'M FALLING!!

I'M FALLLLINGGG!!

NO. DO NOT WORRY.

YOU CAN FLY.

N-NO...!

NO, I...

...I C-CAN'T...

I COULD *NEVER*--

FLY!!

SPRAK

FWAM

WH .. WHAT *NOW?*

AAH, SAME SHIT, DIFFERENT DAY.

SHE'S STILL OUT.

*HEY,* SOMEONE GO GET MR. OHASHI!

OH, GAWD, HOW COME YOU GUYS LIKE THAT SPAZ SO MUCH?

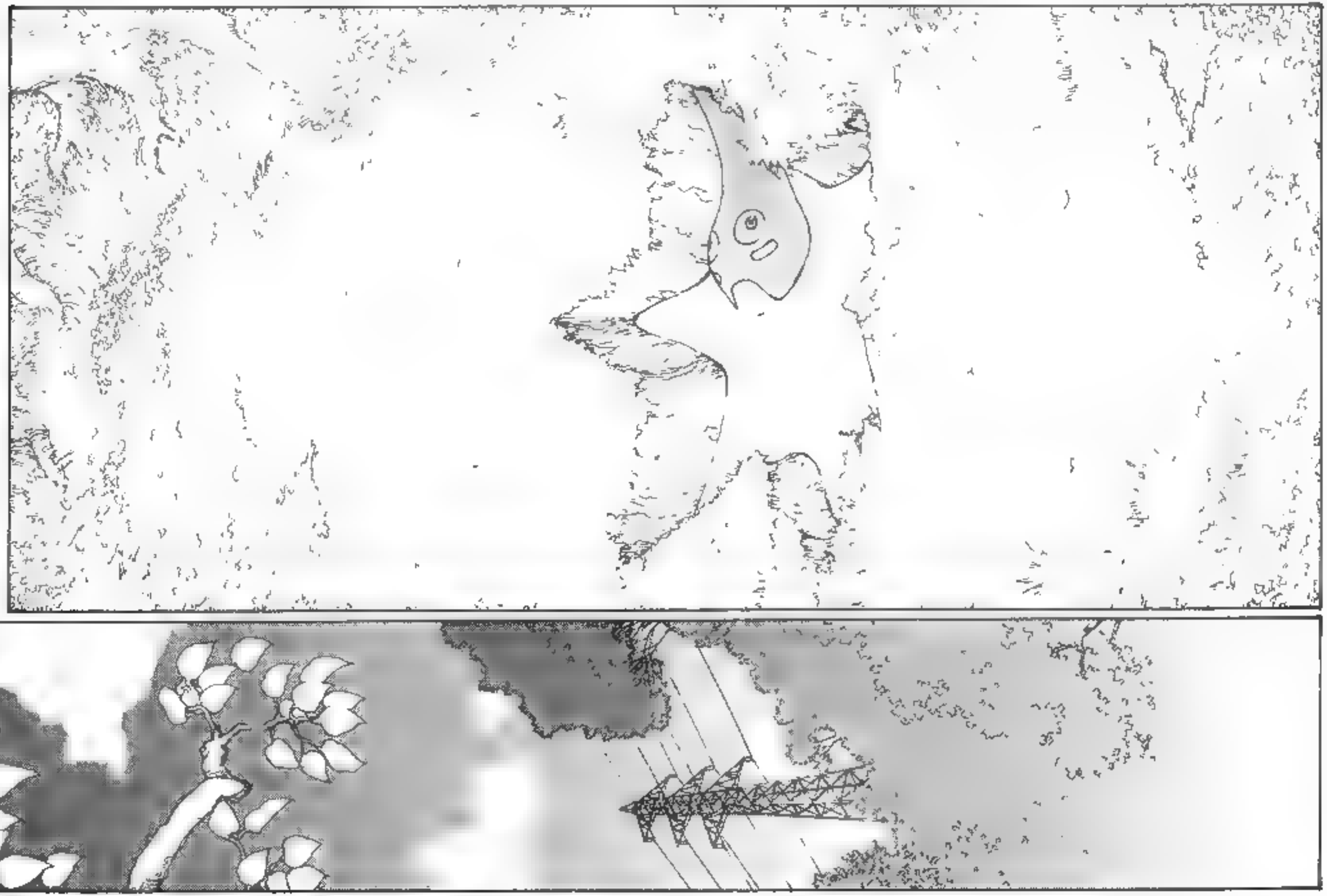
SHE'S SO WEIRD.

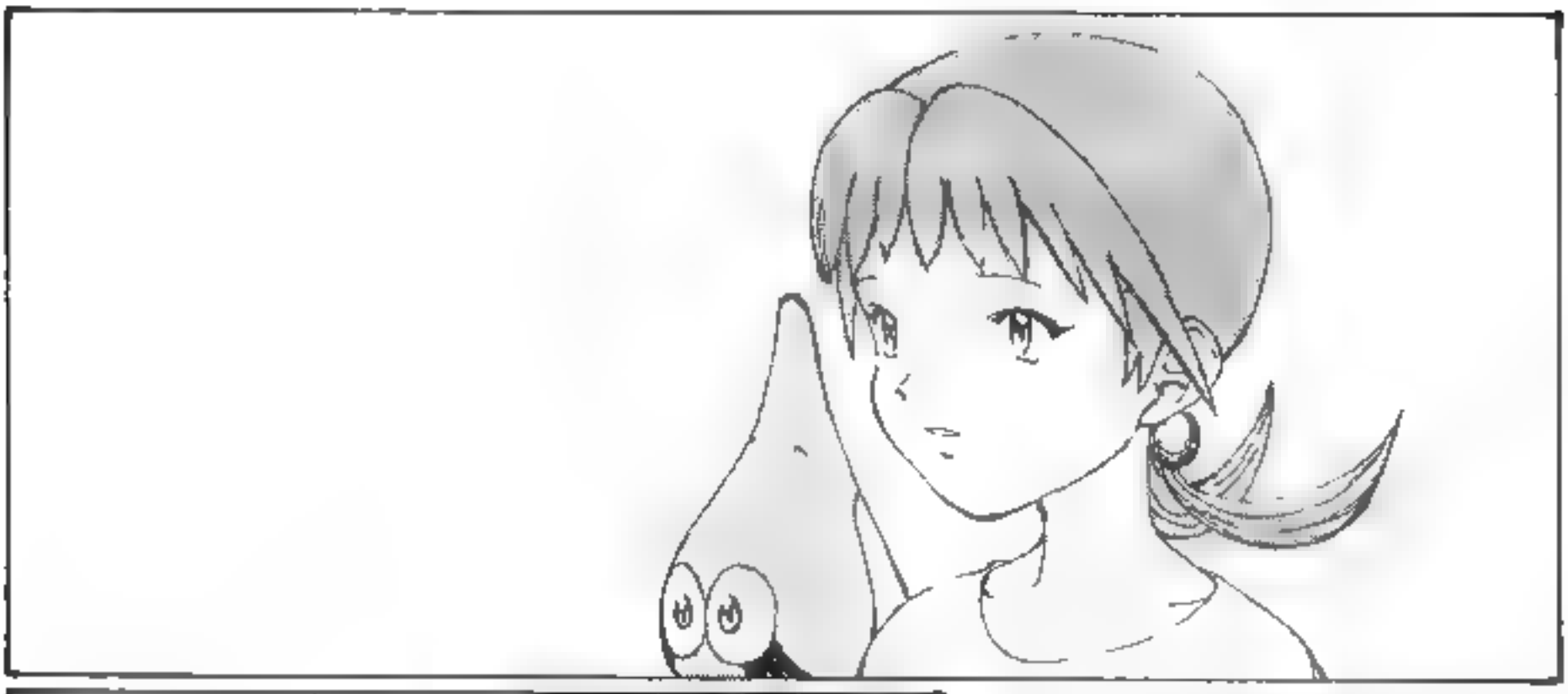
JUST LEAVE HER THERE.

YOU GUYS CAN CLEAN THE BARF UP, THOUGH.

HEH, HEH!

*YEAH!* BETCHA KAZUYUKI'D *LICK IT* UP!



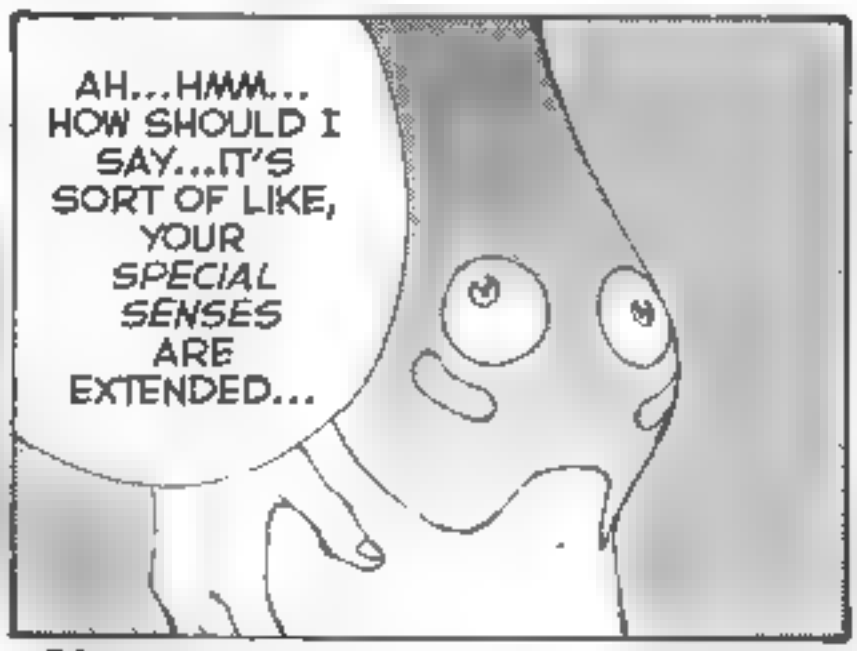


B-BACK THEN... I DIDN'T KNOW HOW TO CONTROL THE INFOR-MATION IT SENDS ME.

HUH? WHATCHA MEAN?

UM... WELL...
AREN'T YOU...UM... CONNECTED TO YOURS?

"CON-NECTED" ...?


AH...HMM... HOW SHOULD I SAY...IT'S SORT OF LIKE, YOUR SPECIAL SENSES ARE EXTENDED...

SPECIAL SENSES?

LIKE... LIKE BEING ABLE TO SEE WHAT IT SEES.

*WHAT?! WOW!! YOU CAN DO THAT?!*

?? Y-YES.

C-CAN'T YOU...?

NO WAY! WE CAN'T DO ANYTHING LIKE *THAT!*

*CAN WE?*

SO, LIKE, IF YOUR GUY IS FLYING OR SOMETHING, EVEN IF YOU'RE STUCK HERE IN YOUR ROOM...

...YOU FEEL LIKE *YOU'RE* FLYING?

Y-YES, I... I CAN.

.... ....

GEE... THAT WOULD BE KINDA *COOL!*

N-NO. THERE... THERE'S NOTHING "COOL" ABOUT IT *AT ALL.*

I...I STILL HAVE NIGHT-MARES...

...THAT I'M *FALLING.*

IF...IF I HAVE TO SUFFER THAT... THAT *HORROR* AGAIN...

I...I'D RATHER BE *DEAD.*

B BUT.... I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH THIS... THING.

I FEEL SORRY FOR IT, BUT I JUST WANT TO FORGET *EVERYTHING* ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED.

SO...

SHII... SHII...

.....

I...I CAN'T SEE YOU...

ANY... M-MORE.

"SHIINA."

AH?

"SHI..."

COME ON-- SAY IT.

....
....

S-SHI...

"EE..."

EE...

"NA!"

N-NA.

SEE-- YOU CAN SAY IT!

GO ON!

"SEE, YOU CAN..."

*NOT* FUNNY!

....
....

neh neh

ANYWAY... IF YOU TWO ARE LINKED UP LIKE THAT, YOU CAN'T JUST DUMP HIM SOMEPLACE, RIGHT?

IMAGINE IF SOME CRAZY SCIENTISTS CAUGHT HIM AND STARTED EXPERIMENTING AND CUTTING HIM UP AND STUFF!

EEEYEWW! YOU'D FEEL EVERYTHING!

SO! I THINK YOU OUGHTTA MAKE THE BEST OF THE SITUATION. RIGHT?

MAKE THE B-BEST OF IT...?

FROM TODAY, WE'RE *SPECIAL* FRIENDS!

"FRIENDS" ...?

*EVERYTHING* WORKS OUT BETTER IF YOU'VE GOT A GOOD FRIEND.

AND I'M A LOT HAPPIER KNOWING YOU AND YOUR GUY ARE AROUND TOO, AKIRA!

I... I... ....

YES ...?

しいな


I'LL SEE YA, THEN.
DINNER WAS GREAT!

SHII..
SHIINA!!
YEAH?

T...

T-TAKE CARE.

OKAY!

SEE YA, AKIRA!!

SHIINA...

MY... F-FRIEND.

TO BE CONTINUED...

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